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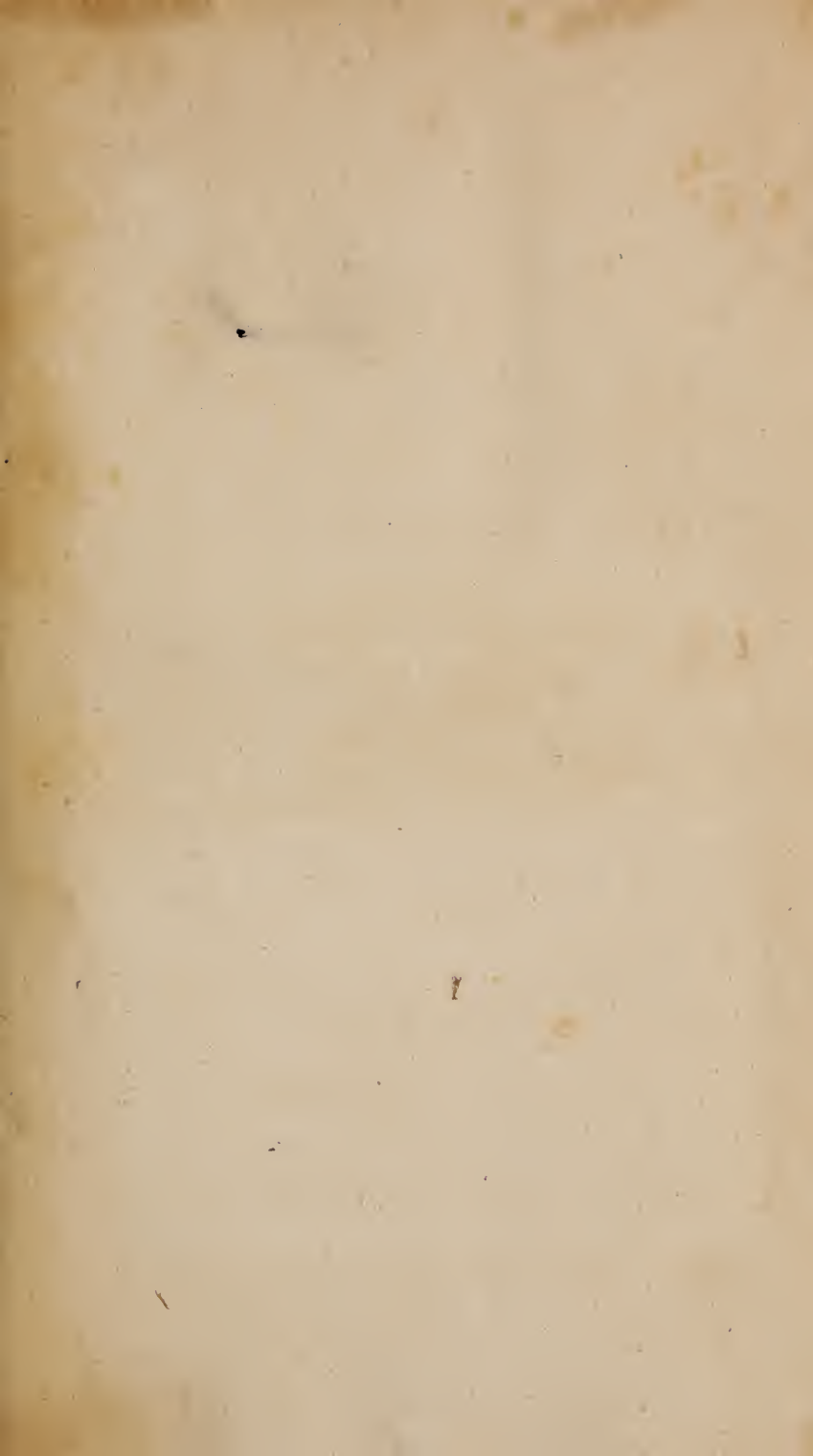
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THE  
UNITED BRETHREN'S  
MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,  
AND  
**Religious Miscellany;**

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S  
MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COM-  
MUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

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No. 12.]

FOURTH QUARTER, 1836.

[VOL. V.]

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[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

I. LABRADOR.

1. LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE FURTHERANCE  
OF THE GOSPEL FROM THE MISSIONARIES ON THE COAST OF  
LABRADOR, IN THE YEAR 1835.

*"Hopedale, July 26th, 1836.*

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—On the 20th instant, we were unexpectedly roused by the joyful cry of our Esquimaux, announcing the approach of the Harmony, and conveying to our minds sensations of comfort and delight, such as none can rightly appreciate, but those who, like ourselves, have been called to dwell in an arctic solitude.

"The mercy and protecting care of GOD our Saviour, displayed toward the little vessel which maintains our communication with your Society, and with our brethren and sisters in Europe, call for the renewed expression of fervent gratitude to Him, when we behold her, each successive year, brought in safety to our coasts.

"In regard to ourselves, and the work committed to us, we can declare, that, during the past year, the LORD has been our helper, and vouchsafed his blessing upon our feeble endeavors. He has given us to feel his cheering presence, held his hand over us and our congregation, afforded us counsel and support in the hour of difficulty, and enabled us to perform our appointed duties, both of a spiritual and a temporal nature. The members of our mission family have, in general, enjoyed good health. The Brethren Meissner and Kunath suffered more or less from rheumatism during the winter; and the latter, we are sorry to say, remains an invalid.

"Our Esquimaux have been comparatively free from dangerous illness, and no adult member of our congregation has departed this life within the year. Our heavenly Father mercifully provided for their outward wants, granting them an abundant supply of seals throughout the winter and the ensuing spring. Although the settlers in the south continue a source of anxiety to us, we have been thankful to perceive less of that desire to visit them, by which in former years so many of our people were infected.

The spiritual state of our congregation during the past year has, on the whole, afforded us encouragement, and proofs have not been wanting of a renewed work of the HOLY SPIRIT in the hearts of those committed to our charge. The meetings have been well attended, and the word of JESUS' patience listened to with devout attention, and we trust, not without profit to the hearers.

"The schools have been regularly held, and diligently frequented, and many of the children have shown by their diligence, that they valued the instruction afforded them. At Hopedale, all children, from the age of five years and upwards, are accustomed to attend school, and occasionally infants of three or four years are taken thither by their mothers, though, as far as we can judge, hitherto to little purpose. Most of our scholars of the age of 10 or 12 years can read.

"At the close of the year 1834, the Esquimaux congregation at this place consisted of 172 persons, of whom 63 were communicants.

"We commend to your affectionate attentions our dear brother Kunath and his wife, who are under the necessity of retiring from the service of this Mission, in which Brother Kunath has been engaged 31 years.

"J. S. MEISSNER, C. G. ALBRECHT, G. HERTZBERG."  
Z. GLITSCH, A. KUNATH,

"*Nain, August, 1835.*

"DEAREST BRETHREN,—Your kind letter reached our hands on the 24th of July, the day on which two post-kayaks from Hopedale brought us the welcome news of the safe arrival of the Harmony at that settlement.

"We are thankful to inform you, that the year past has been distinguished by outward peace, and by the enjoyment of the cheering presence of our Saviour. When we review the history of this Mission, during the 65 years which have elapsed since its commencement, we cannot but gratefully acknowledge the mercy which the LORD has displayed toward the Esquimaux nation. We rejoice to think, how many souls he has rescued from the grasp of Satan, how many who once were guilty of murder, fornication, sorcery, and other deadly sins, he has delivered from them, and brought into fellowship with the people of God, leading them by his Spirit to seek and to find daily refreshment and instruction in his word; and enabling them in firm, yet childlike, reliance upon the merits of his atoning death, to look forward joyfully to the hour of their departure.

"Being well aware of the temptations to sin to which our people are exposed by the very nature of the life which they lead, we are the more thankful to be able to report, that no instance of open transgression has, to the best of our knowledge, occurred among them during the year past. The services, public and private, have been numerous and devoutly attended, and the administration of the Lord's Supper has been accompanied by a rich blessing to our communicants. The children have been regular

at school, and many have made good progress in learning to read and write, beside storing their memories with a number of precious portions of Holy Writ, some of which were recited at the school examination, in a manner which showed that they were understood and valued. We may venture to say, that there is not a single child belonging to our congregation, who is not made early acquainted with the holy Scriptures, and the blessed doctrines contained therein; and that the parents, with few exceptions, take a delight in teaching their children suitable hymns. Even infants of three years are often found able to repeat a number of verses.

“Not a few of our Esquimaux testified to us, on their return from their provision-places, the joy which they experienced, in being once again within reach of the means of grace. They added, that they felt the more desirous to call upon us, because **JESUS** had preserved them and their children from that which was evil, and they wished to tell us how gracious he had been to them. On setting out in the spring or summer for their provision-places, each family is ordinarily supplied with at least one copy of those portions of the word of God which have been already printed. From these some passages are read at the morning and evening worship, held in each tent, for the edification of its inmates; and frequently there ensues an interesting and profitable conversation on the subject thus brought to remembrance. In this manner, the precious gift, for which we have so frequently had to express our thanks to the British and Foreign Bible Society, is turned to good account, and rendered productive of abiding blessing. We regret, that the Esquimaux version of the prophecies of Isaiah, with which we have been for some time engaged, is not sufficiently advanced to warrant our sending the manuscript for printing: it is at present undergoing a final revision. The translation of the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed, with Luther's Exposition annexed, having been carefully revised and corrected, we take the liberty of transmitting the manuscript to your Society, with the request, that you would kindly print it for the use of our schools.

“In the course of the past year, 13 children were born and baptized at Nain; 7 persons, baptized in infancy, received as members of the congregation; and 3 admitted to the holy communion. Five individuals have departed this life. Our flock consists at the present time of 157 baptized adults, of whom 112 are communicants, and 113 baptized children and young people. To this number, 1 candidate for baptism, and 2 unbaptized children are to be added, making the number of souls under our care, 273.

“In externals, we have experienced the gracious and providential care of our heavenly Father. Our Esquimaux had a sufficiency of food during the winter, and remained with us till Easter; on their subsequent dispersion some experienced a want of the necessaries of life. This scarcity, however, lasted only a few weeks. The winter was severe, without much snow; the sea froze on the 1st of December, and it was not till the 1st of

July, that we again saw open water in our bay. Our Mission family has, for the most part, been blessed with health. Brother Henn had, indeed, to suffer for a time from lameness. The rest of our number have been able to proceed uninterruptedly in our allotted work.

“Brother and Sister Stock, who have faithfully served the Mission in Labrador twenty-two years, will return this year with the ship to Europe, in consequence of Brother Stock’s precarious state of health.

“JOHN LUNDBERG, J. P. STOCK,  
C. B. HENN, J. C. BECK.”

“*Okkak, August, 1835.*”

“DEAREST BRETHREN,—The history of our congregation during the year past, has convinced us anew, that the LORD continues to have thoughts of peace concerning us, and that, for his own name’s sake, he will not forsake his people. Deviations from the good way have, indeed, occurred among the members of our flocks; but we have seen with joy, that the exercise of church discipline has been attended with the Divine blessing, and that it has been the means, through the operation of the HOLY SPIRIT, of bringing more than one wanderer back into the fold. If we have had occasion to chasten and to rebuke, we have also found opportunities for the administration of comfort and encouragement.

“Since we had last the pleasure of addressing you, 9 adults have been added to our flock by reception; 8 have been admitted to the Lord’s table; 3 heathen Esquimaux have become candidates for baptism; 13 children have been born and baptized; 6 couples married; 5 persons have departed this life. The whole number of persons under our care is 337, of whom 132 are communicants.

“Many of these seek, through the Saviour’s grace, to demean themselves as his true followers, to profit by the means of edification afforded them, and to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the LORD. The attendance of the children on the schools is satisfactory, especially during the winter, when the families are mostly residing with us. The dispersion generally takes place soon after Easter; and, till the ensuing October, we seldom see our whole flock re-assembled around us. Much as we regret this circumstance, we cannot alter it; for the mode of life which the Esquimaux are compelled to adopt, is incompatible with a constant residence at any one place.

“We were thankful to receive a further supply of Esquimaux Hymn Books: our young people are eager to have copies, being very fond of learning verses, and singing them, both at home and in the house of God.

Our church having proved, for several years past, too small for the accommodation of our Esquimaux flocks, we have enlarged it, and at the same time fitted it up with an interior boarding, an improvement which has long been considered desirable.



Our people continue to take great delight in musical performances, by the help of which they greatly enliven our public and private worship, and especially our festive celebrations.

“During the year past few of our number have been prevented by ill health from performing their appointed duties. Our dear Brother Stürman’s health, we are thankful to state, has been gradually improving. On the other hand, the serious indisposition of Brother Fritsche caused us the deepest concern, and made us at one time not a little apprehensive for his valuable life. His retirement from the service of the Missions, which we trust may prove but temporary, will be deeply felt by us all; for he has been a most useful and acceptable fellow-laborer.

“The cold of last winter proved severe, and of long continuance; the thermometer having fallen as low as 30° below Fahrenheit’s 0. The summer which has succeeded, we may denominate cool, though the thermometer has occasionally risen to 81° Fahrenheit. Our prospects, as far as garden produce is concerned, are but indifferent; and of potatoes we shall have a very slender crop. Hares and ripper (a kind of partridge) have been brought us in plenty by the Esquimaux during the winter months, and reindeer’s flesh in the spring; so that we experienced no want of fresh meat, which is a very agreeable and almost necessary variation from our ordinary diet.

“S. STÜRMAN, F. C. FRITSCHÉ, FR. ERDMAN.”  
J. KOERNER, G. F. KNAUS,

“*Hebron, August 6th, 1835.*”

“DEAREST BRETHREN,—We thank you most cordially for your kind letter of the 6th June, which was forwarded to us shortly after the arrival of the Harmony at Hopedale. That you so liberally acceded to the request which we made with much hesitation, for a supply of shingles, was more than we ventured to expect. We need hardly state, that the quantity sent will be of essential use to us, and help forward materially the work in which we are engaged, and with which we have been enabled to proceed uninterruptedly during the past year.

“You will be glad to be informed, that the frame of the church was erected in the month of September, 1834, and that of the dwelling-house the beginning of May following. Both buildings have been since furnished with windows, and, previous to the expected arrival of the ship, we hope to have boarded the walls and the roof. The little turret intended for the church is finished, as is likewise a smaller one in which our house-bell is to be suspended. The masonry is also advancing, and one of the chimneys is already constructed. Our operations have been considerably retarded by the heavy rains which fell in June and July; and almost equally so, by the innumerable swarms of mosquitoes which this wet season seemed to engender.

“Our outward wants have thus far been graciously supplied. Last year there was an abundance of every description of produce

this sterile region is capable of yielding, either spontaneously, or by cultivation.

“For the present year the prospect is proportionately discouraging. Yet we rely on the providential care of our heavenly Father, who has hitherto mercifully supplied our wants.

“The members of our small congregation have, in general, afforded us pleasure; and we had much cause to thank the LORD for the faithfulness wherewith he has watched over them, and caused them to grow in grace and in his love and knowledge. We have often been edified by the simplicity of heart manifested by our older members; though still defective in self-knowledge, and in the apprehension of scriptural truth, they feel that they are sinners, and show great earnestness in following after holiness, which they are aware can only be attained through the merits of JESUS CHRIST their Saviour.

“With the growing youth, we have had less satisfaction; many of them having given evidence of their being more or less under the influence of that spirit of insubordination, which appears to be one of the characteristics of the age in which we live.

“Among the children, likewise, circumstances have occurred of a nature to cause us grief. We are inclined to think that a beneficial effect might be produced by the establishment of an infant-school, agreeably to your suggestion; and as soon as we are relieved from the labor of building, we will gladly do what we can to carry it into effect, on receiving the needful instructions for that purpose.

“Although the daily meetings cannot be said to be neglected by our small flock, it would give us joy to perceive a greater desire after social edification, especially in those of our members who are unable to read the word of GOD for themselves. We cannot help contrasting the conduct of such with that of some very aged and feeble members of our congregation, whom neither bodily infirmity, nor cold and tempestuous weather, can keep from the house of GOD. The several Church festivals, and the celebration of the holy communion, have, in general, been well attended; and the services of the Passion-week drew together a greater concourse than our small place of worship could accommodate. On these occasions, our testimony of the Redeemer's love has been accompanied with evident blessing. In the course of the year, three candidates for baptism were made participants of that sacred ordinance.

“During the few last months, we had frequent visits from the heathen Northlanders, of whom 6 persons from Nachvak and Saeglek requested, and obtained, permission to reside with us. The remainder would hear nothing of conversion to CHRIST, and in due time went their way. Our people suffered no want of the necessaries of life, though their endeavors to take seals in nets were but partially successful, and the attempt to kill a whale failed altogether. On the whole, they enjoyed a good state of health, which we ascribe in part to the *want* of materials to heat their dwellings. One of their number, a married communicant,

lost his life in the ice; his kayak was afterward found, but not his body. In September last, a child four years of age was drowned in the sea, at no great distance from the Mission premises. The following occurrences have taken place within the year:—Born and baptized 10 children; baptized 3 adults; admitted to the communion, 1; candidates for baptism, 3; married, 4 couples; departed this life, 5 persons. There are at present 139 persons under our care, including 61 baptized adults and 45 communicants.

“J. L. MORHARDT, JONATHAN MENTZEL,  
FRED. KRUTH, AUGUST FREYTAG.”

## 2. EXTRACTS FROM PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

### FROM NAIN.

“OUR Esquimaux congregation has, for the most part, afforded us joy. When I mention that two men belonging to our congregation spent two days in a vain attempt to force their way to us through the ice, in order that they might partake with us of the holy communion, you will be ready to admit, that they must have been actuated by an earnest desire after spiritual nourishment. Several of our people, when they returned from their provision-places, came and testified, how much they had wished to see us again; adding, that the time appeared very long, since they had been permitted to attend the house of God, though they had faithfully performed family worship in their tents.

“J. LUNDBERG.”

### FROM HOPEDALE.

“YOU allude to the peculiar trials of Missionaries. Of these I have had my share during my pilgrimage of nearly 65 years. I have lost children by death in this dreary land, and have felt the bereavement severely; yet I know not if my heart did not experience a keener pang, when I was called to take leave of my little daughter Justina, then at the Mission school in Kleinwelcke, and when embracing me for the last time, she called me by the endearing name of ‘father.’ A yet sorer and more enduring affliction was the distressing illness of my dear wife, the effects of inflammation in the brain, by which she was attacked in the year 1830. The anxiety and suffering attendant upon such a visitation of Providence, in a land in which adequate medical aid is not to be obtained, are beyond description. For the space of four weeks, sleep never visited my eyelids, and during this whole period I was deprived of the comfort which occasional interchange of sentiment with one so dear would have administered to my wounded spirit.

“THE LORD continues to own as his property, the little Esquimaux flock which he has gathered at this place. Circumstances of trial are, however, not wanting. In the course of last year,

the old Esquimaux brother, Daniel, one of our chapel servants, the *Attanek*, or head man, at this place, having fallen into sin, had to be dismissed from his office, and excluded from the Lord's supper. On this occasion, we were somewhat apprehensive as to the probable effect of this exercise of church discipline, for he had many friends, beside a large family of children and grandchildren; but, to our great satisfaction, our people immediately, and of their own accord, chose as his successor his brother Amos, who was sufficiently prudent not to accept the offered dignity, till they had promised that they would submit to his directions. They told him, on this occasion, that their choice had fallen on him, because he had so faithfully directed them to JESUS, and reminded them of his word and commandments. This Amos, who is already well known to you by his letters, is distinguished for his uprightness of heart, and his love for our Saviour and his cause. To him we are indebted for the most important corrections and improvements in our printed Esquimaux translations of Scripture, as he possesses a thorough knowledge of his native tongue, and a very intelligent and reflecting mind. No revenue is attached to his dignity of chieftain; on the contrary, he is expected to distribute of his own earnings to the poor. He is, at the same time, hewer of wood and drawer of water for our Mission family, a service which he performs every Friday, and esteems so highly, that I question if he would exchange places with King William himself.

“J. S. MEISSNER.”

FROM OKKAK.

“You will, I know, be pleased to hear that I am now quite at home in Labrador, and that I would not exchange my service on this barren coast with that of any of my brethren in more genial climes.

“In the beginning of April I removed to this place, in consequence of the severe illness of our dear Brother Fritsche. My travelling equipage was a sledge, with 22 dogs, in which I performed the journey to Okkak within the space of 36 hours, passing the night in the open air, about half-way between the two places. The first day's journey was very pleasant, the weather being fine, and the novelty of every thing connected with this mode of travelling, being great to a new comer like myself. The antics of the dogs amused me exceedingly; true to their nature, these creatures can never keep on in a direct course long together; to relieve the uniformity of their occupation, they often diverge to the right or left, as far as their traces will permit, jump over each other's backs, and sometimes engage in a friendly squabble, till at length confusion and entanglement reach their height, and the driver must stop the vehicle, and bring his wild and wayward steeds once more into order. At the close of the day's journey, a good supper rewards their pains.

“F. ERDMAN.”

## FROM HEBRON.

“A considerable number of heathen living to the north of us, at *Saeglek*, *Nachvak*, *Kangertluarauk*, and *Kangertlualuk-soak*, visited us last winter, bringing a quantity of seals’ blubber and seals’ skins for barter. To these poor people we had many opportunities of proclaiming the love of JESUS. Most of them, however, turned a deaf ear to our message, and some mocked. One asked me if I had seen JESUS; adding, that he supposed we dreamed of him; and then turned the conversation upon ordinary subjects. As they are fond of pictures, I showed them one representing the crucifixion: a few of them seemed affected, observing that it would be well to come to JESUS; others said, ‘I neither can nor will leave my parents and relations, and as these have no wish to be converted, I must remain as I am.’ Their love of music induced them to listen to me when I played a hymn-tune, but I soon discovered by their conversation that dances were more to their taste. An old man, who was reminded that the hour of death could not be far distant, answered, ‘I have no wish to be converted, for I shall yet live many years, and shall always *have enough to eat*.’ One man, who had two wives, being asked if he thought that both would accompany him into another world, replied, ‘Oh yes, for I have improved them greatly, and they now live in peace with one another:’ a remark to which the second wife gave her assent. This improvement, such as it is, was chiefly effected by blows and kicks, and taking away a portion of their clothes. The aspect of this man was so savage, that if he should eventually be converted, through the grace of God our Saviour, one might say with truth concerning him, that the lion had been changed into a lamb. Nor need we despair of such a transformation, remembering the triumphs which have been achieved also on this coast by the word of the Cross.

“On the 5th of January, two sledges arrived from the north, containing seven men and three women, who attended the services on the following day (Epiphany.) Among these, was the baptism of an old widow, who had come to us on our first arrival four years ago. They behaved with great decorum, and I trust that the word spoken was not altogether without effect.

“I proceed, according to the best of my ability, with the translation of Scripture, but often find myself much at a loss, in my attempt at an Esquimaux version of the Book of Exodus, owing to want of acquaintance with the Hebrew language. The revision of the Hymn Book is in progress, and we hope soon to complete it.

“L. MORHARDT.”

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

## II. SOUTH AFRICA.

### 1. EXTRACT OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER H. P. HALLBECK.

*"Gnadenthal, July 11, 1835.*

"DEAR BROTHER,—In consequence of the extension of the colony, Shiloh is now within its boundary; and it remains to be seen, what influence this new state of affairs will have on its future relations, and on the spread of the Gospel in general. By the last measures, it appears to be the intention of government to leave the conquered province in the possession of the Caffres and other neighboring tribes, but under British jurisdiction.

"The last letters from our brethren at Shiloh were dated May 21, when they were well, and, after some fears and interruptions, again employed in building. The Missionaries and their wives were all collected at Enon on the 24th of May, and a guard of 36 Hottentots, maintained by government, continued under arms. The Caffres are now so far subdued, that the governor has dismissed the burgher force; and, with the boors, all the Hottentots of Elim, and upward of 40 from this place, who were employed with the wagons, returned about a fortnight ago. But the other young people from Gnadenthal, upward of 120, together with many hundreds from other parts, are still retained, under the appellation of 'Provisional Colonial Infantry.' Meanwhile we are somewhat comforted by knowing, that the campaign has hitherto proved, not only not hurtful to the spiritual welfare of our people, but useful both to themselves and many of their companions, who with delight and surprise, witnessed their Christian conduct. Thus the farmers were edified by the meetings for reading and singing which they held; and their captain writes me word, that his company, consisting chiefly of people from Gnadenthal, has been pointed out to the whole regiment, as a model of obedience and good behaviour. The death-bed of one young man, Simeon Botha, as I have been informed by several eye-witnesses, made a deep impression on all present. On the 10th of May he was mortally wounded by the imprudence of a comrade. His captain, a religious man, hearing of this, immediately visited him, to speak to him on the concerns of his soul, and afterward wrote to me as follows: 'I cannot express to you the joy it gave me, to find, that though so suddenly called, he was fully prepared, and reconciled to his fate. He told me, that although life was sweet, and parting bitter, he was willing and ready to die; that he had kept his God before his eyes, and doubted not but he would receive him. On my offering to write to you, he told me that I must say, he hoped his wife and children would abide in the blessed Saviour. Two hours after this conversation he sent to beg, that his companions from Gnadenthal might come and sing with him. I immediately collected them, and they did as he desired. I dare say it was a novel spectacle in a camp: I am sure it was a very affecting one.' I am happy to add, that a yearly pension of 15*l.* is granted to his widow here, who has five children under ten years of age.

“ We have lately spoken with the several classes, who are not yet communicants, with great pleasure ; none giving us more satisfaction than those lately returned from Caffraria. And in consequence of this speaking, we had 9 persons admitted candidates for baptism, 5 adults baptized, 3 received into the congregation, 10 candidates for the communion, 14 confirmed, and 5 readmitted. Our school-building, which was at a stand for some time, as all hands were employed on the church at Elim, has lately been thatched, and will, I trust, in a very few weeks, be completed. The number of our scholars is as large as usual, and both teachers and assistants appear to be active in their important calling. Ezekiel Pfeiffer is, in particular, extremely useful, and is become one of our organists.

“ Since New-year 31 adults have been baptized at Elim, among whom are several persons from Houtkloof, and the congregation appears to be in a pleasing course, increasing both in number and grace. Brother Tietze still continues at Hemel-en-Aarde, though he is evidently laboring under a confirmed dropsy, and must suffer severely in his attempts to address the congregation.

“ By the last advices from Groenekloof, all the Missionaries were well ; and Brother Lemmertz, on his late visit here, gave us a more cheering account of the course of the congregation than we have been accustomed to for some time.”

“ July 30th, 1835.

“ Our brethren at Shiloh, were well and safe up to the 24th of June, and lived in comparative peace, while the hostile Caffre tribes were dreadfully harassed in their few remaining retreats in Western Caffraria, now the province ‘ Adelaide.’ In the beginning of July, our brethren at Enon were in good health. Our masons have returned from Elim, having completed the church, which now only requires the finishing hand of the carpenters. These, too, are Hottentots of Gnadenthal, who have learned their trade under the Brethren Leitner and Sonderman ; and thus we have the gratification of seeing one of the finest buildings in these parts, erected by those very Hottentots whose forefathers, if not their fathers and mothers, lived in habitations rather inferior to those of the brute beaver. Surely it can now no more be asserted, that they are incapable of improvement, and have made no advances, when such monuments testify the contrary.

“ H. P. HALLBECK.”

FROM BROTHER L. TEUTSCH.

“ Elim, July 21, 1835.

“ DEAR BROTHER,—We live here in perfect peace, and know nothing of the troubles of the Caffre war, but what we read in the Cape newspapers. Twelve of our Hottentots were called out into military service, and marched to the frontier, whence they have all subsequently returned, unhurt.

“ On the preaching of the Gospel, a special blessing continues to rest. The number of those who flock to hear it, increases pro-

gressively, and such is the concourse of hearers at our public worship, both Christians and heathens, that our little hall is quite overflowing. From this inconvenience we shall soon be relieved, as our new and spacious church is rapidly advancing toward completion. In the progress of this work we have experienced a large measure of the Divine blessing and protection; not an individual engaged in it having received any serious bodily injury. It is a handsome building, and will be quite an ornament to our settlement. It affords us particular pleasure, to think that it has been erected and fitted up without any assistance from strangers: the masons, carpenters, joiners, smiths, and other artisans being inhabitants either of our place or of Gnadenthal. It is now our earnest prayer that God would be pleased to fill this house with his gracious presence, and make it a Bethel to many a seeking soul.

“At the close of 1834, there were 271 inhabitants at Elim, and 29 persons at Houtkloof, in connexion with our Church. In the course of the past year 31 persons have received permission to reside with us, 30 adults have been baptized, and 13 admitted to the Lord’s supper.

“Previous to our last prayer-day, on the 21st June, my wife and myself conversed individually with the members of our little flock, much to the edification of our own souls. The new people appeared to be earnestly seeking the one thing needful: the candidates for baptism, in general, gave evidence of growing self-knowledge, and we trust, of increasing faith in the Lord JESUS. The baptized assured us of their sincere desire to remain faithful to their baptismal covenant, and to abide in JESUS, from whom alone they could derive the needful grace and strength. With the communicants we had likewise much cause for satisfaction. Of the little company at Houtkloof, 8 are already baptized, and walk worthily of the grace bestowed upon them. Their children attend our school, and show much diligence.

“Among the individuals baptized on the last prayer-day, was an aged widow of 75 years, from Houtkloof, who departed, as we have every reason to believe, in the faith of CHRIST, a few days after her return home.

“Since the abolition of slavery in this colony, we have had occasional visits from the apprenticed laborers, serving on the neighboring farms, several of whom have wives living at Elim. One of their number, whose wife lately departed, has called on me, and requested admission into our fellowship, which, as the applicant appears to be a sincere inquirer after the way of salvation, will not be refused him.

“Our schools continue flourishing. The infant-school numbers 50 pupils, and that for the elder children, 64. The utility of the former institution becomes more and more manifest: its effect has been already most beneficial upon the character of the children. They have become friendly and confiding, and in regularity, good order, and cleanliness, have improved greatly.

“L. TEUTSCH.”



2. *Letter addressed by the Bishops and Elders of the BRETHREN'S CHURCH at Berthelsdorf, to the Six Congregations in South Africa, under the care of the Brethren's Missionaries, on occasion of the Centenary Jubilee of the Mission, February 14, 1836.*

DEAR BRETHREN AND SISTERS,—The year 1836 promises to be one of deep interest to the whole Brethren's Unity, inasmuch as it is the year appointed for the holding of a General Synod of the Brethren's Church;—to you it will be rendered additionally memorable, by the celebration, if the LORD permit, of the Centenary Jubilee of the Mission in South Africa.

It was on the 14th of February, 1736, that Brother George Schmidt, who had already done the work of an evangelist, in his native country, Moravia, set out from Herrnhut, for the purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST to the Hottentots at the Cape of Good Hope. Within a short time after his arrival in that colony, he saw himself surrounded by a company of souls, eagerly inquiring after the way of salvation, seven of whom, being the first converts from your nation, he had the joy to dedicate to the LORD in holy baptism. This little flock grew in grace, and in the knowledge of their Saviour, and not a few of the neighboring heathen manifested a desire to join themselves to it; when suddenly Brother Schmidt was prohibited from baptizing any more converts, and compelled to return to Europe, in the year 1744. The separation from his beloved Hottentots cost him many a pang, and numberless were the tears of affection and sorrow which they shed after him. In his retirement, at the settlement of Niesky, in Upper Lusatia, his forsaken flock remained the object of his daily thoughts and prayers, till, on the 2d of August, 1785, he was permitted to enter into the joy of his LORD, in the 76th year of his age.\* Meanwhile, the believing Hottentots ceased not to implore the LORD, that he would send back to them his faithful servant, or else appoint another in his place. It was not, however, till the year 1792, that the obstacles, which prevented the renewal of the Mission, were removed, and Missionaries could be again sent to South Africa. These were the Brethren Marsveld, Schwinn, and Kühnel. Of the converts left behind by Father Schmidt, none was found surviving, after so long an interval, except old blind Helena, whose heart was filled with joy, and her mouth with thanksgiving, when she experienced the fulfilment of her ardent wishes, and heard once more, before the close of her pilgrimage, the precious words of eternal life.

\* The circumstances attending his translation were the following:—Being a member of the so-called "Company of Intercessors," who, according to the practice at that time prevailing in the Brethren's Unity, divided among themselves the twenty-four hours of the day and night, to the intent that continual supplication might be made to the throne of grace for the Church of GOD, and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, he had retired to his chamber at the appointed hour, to take his share in this blessed duty; and while thus engaged, his spirit took its flight. On these occasions, it was well known to his brethren, that the destitute condition of the little flock he had left behind in South Africa was a special subject of his prayerful remembrance; it is, therefore, more than probable, that his last moments were spent in fervent intercession in behalf of his beloved Hottentots, a suitable close to a life, the earlier portion of which had been marked by self-denying exertion in the cause of his Divine Master, and the latter, by unobtrusive humility and simple resignation to his gracious will.

The testimony of our Brethren concerning JESUS found entrance among your nation, and in a few years, a house of prayer was erected at Bavianskloof, (now called Gnadenthal,) around which a number of Hottentot families, concerned for their salvation, gradually set up their tents. Hereby the hostility of the neighboring European settlers was aroused, and efforts were made, for a season, to destroy the tender plant, which had begun to yield such pleasing fruit; but the LORD defended his servants, who committed their cause to him, and watched over their little flock, which increased in number and in grace.

You are not ignorant, how, in process of time, other congregations of your believing countrymen were successively formed at Groenekloof, at Enon, near the eastern boundary of the colony, and at Elim, near Cape Lagullas; nor yet of the circumstances under which our Brethren undertook the spiritual and temporal charge of the afflicted patients in the Leper Hospital at Hemel-en Aarde. The number of adult members belonging to these various stations now amounts to above 2000. Since the year 1827 a sixth congregation has existed at Shiloh, on the river Klipplaat, in the country of the Tambookies, which, though small in number, is closely united in spirit with those which have been gathered from the Hottentot nation.

At the time of the conquest of the Cape Colony by the English, the LORD kept the congregation of Gnadenthal as the apple of his eye. Enon was indeed exposed to severe trials and losses, when in the years 1819 and 1834 the colony was invaded by the Caffres,—yet on the latter occasion, we call to mind with gratitude, the Divine protection, vouchsafed both to the settlement and to the inhabitants, a large proportion of whom found an hospitable asylum at Uitenhage. Though surrounded by hordes of wild and lawless heathen, our Brethren at Shiloh and their little flock have hitherto lived in comparative tranquillity, and we are encouraged to hope that the LORD has still thoughts of peace over that station.

You, dear Brethren and Sisters, will doubtless feel yourselves excited to appear, on the 14th February, with praise and thanksgiving, in the presence of the GOD of all grace, the Father of mercy, who gave his well-beloved Son to death for you, and has revealed him to your hearts as your Saviour and Redeemer. The blessings and privileges which he hath conferred upon you, through the proclamation of the Gospel, your admission into his Church by holy baptism, and your participation of the holy communion, call loudly upon you to walk worthily of his grace, and to be a bright example to those of your countrymen, who have not yet experienced the riches of his love. Remember what he has done, within the last few years, for the dear infants whom he has given you to nurse for him—how he has drawn their tender hearts to himself, and made them the almost unconscious witnesses of his soul-constraining power to those of riper years. Thus hath he perfected praise out of the mouth even of babes and sucklings. Give diligence, therefore, to make your calling and election sure; take heed that ye receive not the grace of GOD in vain;

—watch and pray, lest ye be again ensnared by the deceitfulness of sin. Love your spiritual teachers, who, for your sake, have forsaken country and kindred, and have performed long and dangerous voyages across the great ocean, in dependence on the protection of Him, whom winds and seas obey, that they might declare unto you the things which belong to your peace. Attend to their affectionate exhortations and earnest reproofs, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account to the LORD, who has sent them to you as messengers of his Gospel. Ye children, profit by the instruction you are favored to enjoy, that you may learn to read for yourselves in that blessed book, which tells you how dearly you are loved by the Saviour, and how he has deigned to pronounce you the heirs of his kingdom. Ye overseers, beware, lest, having admonished others, you yourselves should become cast-aways. Ye parents, bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the LORD, and set them a good example in all things. Ye who labor with your hands, show faithfulness and diligence in that which is committed to you. Ye husbandmen, forget not to look to Him, from whom alone cometh the increase, for a blessing upon your sowing and planting; and take heed that ye use not his gifts for an occasion to the flesh. Ye soldiers, obey those who have the command over you, mindful, at the same time, that ye have sworn fidelity to the great Captain of your salvation, who has delivered you from the power of darkness, and translated you into the kingdom of God's dear Son. Ye sick and infirm, cast not away your confidence in Him, who hath compassion with our infirmities, having been tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. Ye baptized, remember the grace imparted to you in baptism, when you renounced the devil and all his works, and through faith were enabled to put on CHRIST, that ye may be sanctified wholly, both in body and in spirit. Ye who have been received into the congregation, demean yourselves as worthy members of that body whereof JESUS CHRIST is the head. Ye communicants, continue to hunger for that bread of life which came down from heaven, and to thirst for that water of life, which the Son of man alone can give unto you, that ye may be partakers of the highest good to be enjoyed in this vale of tears. Let every one encourage and exhort the other daily, while it is called to-day, to follow after those things which pertain unto life and godliness, and which are well pleasing in the sight of GOD our Saviour. Be assured, that you are often remembered in love, not only by the members of the Brethren's Church, but also by many children of GOD of other denominations; and that, on the approaching day of jubilee, you will be specially commended to the GOD of all grace, with the fervent supplication, that he would hold his hand over you, protect you from that which is evil, and set you to his praise in the earth. May He who hath pleasure in uprightness of heart, incline you faithfully to attend to the voice of the HOLY SPIRIT, that gracious guide, who never fails to warn you, whenever you are tempted to wander either to the right hand or the left, from the path of peace. JESUS hath received gifts for

men, even for the rebellious also; may those of you who have forfeited their fellowship with the Church, consider their ways, acknowledge their transgressions, and earnestly seek to be restored to their lost privileges. There will be joy in heaven over every sinner who thus repents, and seeks forgiveness of sins with Him, who rejects none that comes to him, weary and heavy-laden. Think of the hundreds of your countrymen who have gone before you in the narrow way, and, having attained the end of their faith, even the salvation of their souls, now stand justified and sanctified before the throne, singing the praises of the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed them unto God by his blood. None of you knows how soon the hour of his departure may arrive. Watch, therefore, and pray always, that ye enter not into temptation, but be found ready to stand before the Son of man.

*The grace of the Lord JESUS CHRIST, and the love of God, and the communion of the HOLY GHOST, be with you all. Amen.*

(Signed) G. M. SCHNEIDER, *Ep. Fr.*

### 3. EXTRACT OF THE DIARY OF GNADENTHAL FOR THE YEAR 1834.

*Jan. 3d.* A communicant, Phebe Bootsman, departed this life. She was a quiet and peaceable woman. The farmer with whom she worked, brought her hither in his wagon, as she desired to depart at Gnadenthal. She had led a troublous life, her husband travelling about the country, and not caring for his family. He arrived, after a long absence, on the day of her death, found his wife a corpse, and could only accompany her remains to their resting place. This made a deep impression upon him, and we pray that it may end in his conversion.

5th. The usual Sunday schools commenced. Besides some married people, they are attended by youths of both sexes, who have left the other schools, and wish to keep up their learning.

7th. Reinhold Kouter was buried. He was a faithful member of our congregation, and proved by his walk and conversation that he had found grace and freedom from sin. For many years he had been the postman between this place and Caledon, till he was visited with the Lazarus sickness, by which he suffered more than is usual. He appeared like a skeleton covered with wounds. It is no wonder that he constantly cried for deliverance from the body of death in which his spirit was confined. When we visited him, he besought us to pray the LORD to grant him patience, and soon to take him to himself.

As a proof that the disposition of the colonists in our neighborhood is totally changed, we may quote the following:—Formerly when an auction was held on a farm, an essential part of the business of the day consisted in dancing and revelry. About this time there was an auction near our place; but instead of the players, a worthy elder of the Dutch Church was invited, and in the place of dancing, hymns were sung, and an edifying discourse was delivered.

19th, was a day of great blessing. Ten young people, born and educated among us, were received into the congregation. Their parents expressed themselves very thankful that their children had devoted themselves unto the LORD.

*February 4th.* A family of nine persons arrived here with their cattle, without giving us the least notice. They begged to be permitted to remain at the settlement, and would take no denial. Having reason to believe that their intention was to hear and profit by the word of God, and to provide a Christian education for their children, we could not turn them away.

28th, was the funeral of an old communicant, Samuel Wittboy. He was baptized in 1797, and was one of the oldest inhabitants of our place. His deportment from that time was unblameable; but he sometimes complained, with many tears, of his ingratitude and unfaithfulness to his Saviour, whose unbounded love and patience he had so long experienced.

*March 24th.* In our conference sixty-seven persons were appointed for advancement in the privileges of the house of God. The sight of so many persons brought into the fold of CHRIST, filled our hearts with joy and gladness.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday the church was crowded with attentive hearers, while we meditated on the last dying words of our Redeemer. It rained so violently on Easter Sunday morning, that we were obliged to pray the litany in the church, instead of the burial ground. The weather having cleared up, the crowd became so great that every corner of the church was filled. Many of our people were absent in the country; but the audience was increased by a great number of Hottentots and slaves, to whom a separate discourse was delivered in the afternoon.

On Easter Monday seven children and two adults were baptized, and thirteen young people received into the congregation.

*May 2d.* Three German missionaries, Lucock, Gebel, and Kraut, who are going to the Bushmen, arrived with letters of recommendation from the Elders' Conference of the Unity. On the 9th Mr. Lucock delivered a powerful discourse to our congregation.

The same day an examination of the girls' school took place, and their progress in learning gave great satisfaction. Of 130 children present, 96 could read, 20 of whom were promoted. Several little presents were given, and the best readers received each a Testament.

This day departed the single woman Mary Plaisir, in her fifty-sixth year. She had served as cook in the mission house for thirty years, with exemplary faithfulness, and was universally respected for her consistent walk and conversation. Being appointed a chapel servant, if she saw any thing contrary to Christian principle in any one belonging to the congregation, she did not fail to notice it, and her reproofs were received in good part. In her last illness she suffered great pain, but was richly comforted by the word of God, and a sense of the love of our

Saviour. She had made a will, and directed her clothes and little effects, with some savings in money, to be distributed among the poor.

12th. On a question being put in the girls' school, "Do we possess any thing that we have not received from God?" a little girl of five years old immediately answered, "Yes, *sin*." The answer was quite spontaneous, the question never having been put before.

16th. At the examination of the children in the boys' school, it appeared that of 119 boys, 70 were able to read; among these 30 had come from the infant school, being between seven and nine years old; 17 boys took their leave, receiving presents of Testaments, as testimonials of their good conduct.

18th. We celebrated Whitsuntide with much blessing. Our friends in Holland have sent us a small printing press, which will be of great use to us.

*June 6th.* Althea Jantje departed this life. She was baptized in 1818, but proved unfaithful, left her husband and child, and continued in a sinful course, till, in 1826, she was seized with a loathsome disorder, by which she was separated from all human society. Her conscience was then alarmed, and she cried for mercy. The LORD approved himself the friend of sinners, and her heart was truly converted. In 1828 she was re-admitted, but afforded a striking instance how sin rewards its votaries. Her sufferings were great, and she could only crawl on her hands and feet. She was never able to appear at church. She also endured much domestic affliction, till delivered by death from all pain and sorrow.

25th. Brother Hallbeck took the two Hottentot boys, John Yager and David Lakey, as assistant teachers in the infant school, with a view to their further progress in learning, *both* giving great hopes of future usefulness.

27th. Mary Kouter departed most happily. She became a communicant in 1814, and her whole walk testified that she was a true child of God. This she proved in many trying situations. For three years she was confined to her bed with a cancerous complaint. When we visited her, her expressions of confidence in her Saviour, of the comfort she found in contemplating his sufferings for her, and of the joy she felt in the hope of being soon with him for ever, edified us, and all with whom she conversed. She said, "Nothing detains me on earth, and I feel the peace of God in my heart."

*July 16th.* Brother Stein was so far recovered, that he and his wife could speak with the children. They expressed great pleasure at the open-heartedness of these little ones, and their thankfulness for the instructions they receive.

17th. Twenty-eight persons were appointed for advancement in the privileges of the Church. On its being made known to them, they were all deeply affected, and promised to devote themselves wholly to the LORD, and follow the leading of his Spirit.

*August 11th.* A woman who had been for some time excluded, related, that during the last communion she came and sat down at the corner of the church, when she was accosted by one of the chapel servants, who said, "What are you doing here? You only come to ridicule our religion, and the blessing we enjoy in this place. This is a work of the devil which you come to perform." These words went to my soul; I went home trembling, and with many tears, cried to God for the forgiveness of my sins. I am thankful for the severity with which I was accosted; and will now turn to my Saviour with all my heart."

*25th.* Two members of our congregation departed, Adam Robynje and Sarah Nimrod. The former was the father of a large family, and had to struggle with poverty; but he cleaved to the Lord, and walked worthily of the Gospel. Some years ago he had the misfortune to fall with a load of wood on his back from a rock fifty feet high, but escaped with a slight bruise, and always remembered his preservation with great thankfulness. During his last illness he said, "I shall soon go home to my Saviour. He will care for my dear wife and seven children. I have nothing to bring before him, yet I am assured, that for the sake of his blood-shedding and death, he will receive me in mercy."

Sarah Nimrod was baptized at Hemel-en-Aarde. After the decease of her husband, she removed to Gnadenthal, where she spent her time as a poor widow, in communion with CHRIST. A few months ago, she was found on the road, cold and senseless, and brought home, when she very slowly recovered. A few weeks since she was again taken ill, and departed happily.

In the evening, an accident of a very painful nature took place in our settlement. During a tremendous storm, a Hottentot house was blown down, and three persons, Christian Haweis, his sister Justina, and her daughter Wilhelmina, five years old, were buried in the ruins. Another sister, with her two children, had just left the place, being alarmed at the state of the building. It was quite dark before the bodies could be got out. The child was dead;—the woman lived a few hours, constantly calling upon the LORD to have mercy upon her; and surely her cry was heard. She was born in 1798, and became a communicant in 1816, but afterward left the congregation. She had, however, been re-admitted. She was engaged in baking bread, when she heard the gable give way; she ran to save her sleeping child, but was crushed by the falling stones.

*September.* As our school-house was found to be much too small, we began on the 2d to add a wing to it. All the men in the settlement declared themselves willing to work at the building without pay.

In these days the Brethren and Sisters Hallbeck and Sonderman were engaged in speaking with all the married people, who celebrated their memorial day on the 7th, when they were particularly exhorted to make the education of their children in the fear of the LORD their principal concern; and to conduct themselves, under all circumstances, as true children of GOD. It proved a day

of great blessing to all present, of which we afterward received many pleasing testimonies.

12th. We celebrated the anniversary of the infant-school, with an examination of the children, of whom 150 were present; and were truly thankful for the progress they had made during the year. May the LORD continue his blessing upon this nursery, and preserve it from all noxious weeds, and from the devices of the enemy!

*October 23d.* We were visited by the Missionaries Zorn and Linde from Tulbagh, in company of the Brethren Heyer and Bernstein. We were much pleased with the visit of the latter, who remained with us some days. They are appointed to go to Borneo, and set out with great cheerfulness for that distant island. We joined in prayer, that the LORD would send out his light and truth into that dark region.

*November 1st.* The communicant Tobias Van Wyk was called into eternal rest. He was baptized in 1810, and was probably upward of 90 years of age. He distinguished himself among the former race of Hottentots by his diligence; and his walk and conversation proved edifying to all. When by age and infirmity he was rendered helpless, he often prayed for patience; and waited, like a weary child, to be admitted into the presence of his Saviour.

26th. The Rev. Mr. Frazer of Beaufort, with his family, returning from a synod held at Cape-Town, came hither, and delivered a powerful discourse in our church.

*December 1st.* In the evening meeting, Brother Hallbeck made known to the congregation the emancipation of all slaves throughout the colony. He exhorted all present to praise and thank the LORD, that he had put this benevolent design into the hearts of our rulers. In fervent prayer we entreated him to grant them not only freedom from the slavery of the body, but also from the far more galling yoke of sin, and bring them to his Church on earth. This announcement was received with great emotion: for the slaves, of whom there are but few in our neighborhood, had not generally believed the report.

24th and 25th. We celebrated the birth of our Lord with joy and gladness, and had a greater number of visitors this season than we had expected. After the evening service on Christmas-eve, we were unexpectedly greeted by the children, who had placed themselves in great order in the grove, and joined in singing a delightful anthem.

30th. Several farmers who came hither on business, brought the painful account of the invasion of the colony by the Caffres, and their advance as far as the Zuurberg. This statement was confirmed by Commandant Linde, who arrived with a view to levy a party of Hottentots to join the force opposed to the invaders.

We concluded the year with joyful and painful sensations; joyful in considering the great mercies bestowed upon us by our LORD, both in our inward and outward concerns. He has, indeed,



done great things for us. In all our meetings his presence is powerfully felt; many souls have been awakened and brought to a saving knowledge of Him, who is the only door of the sheep-fold.

Our Hottentot congregation consists of 1383 persons; 43 more than at the end of last year. Of these 627 are communicants; 390 baptized children. The settlement contains 252 cottages, 124 being of stone.

H. P. HALLBECK,	C. G. SONDERMAN,
C. F. NAUHAUS,	P. H. BRAUER.
G. I. F. STEIN.	

#### 4. EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BROTHER H. P. HALLBECK.

“ *Gnadenthal, August 29th, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—Since the date of my last, the accounts from Caffraria, or the new province of Adelaide, are very unsatisfactory. The Caffres are said to have destroyed upward of 50 of our defenders, and to have captured a number of wagons loaded with provisions. Instead of retreating, they appear to increase in number and boldness: thus proving, that the measure of expulsion is not so easily carried into effect as was at first supposed. Meanwhile, I am thankful to report, that none of our people, who serve as provisional militia, had been hurt up to the 30th ult., and that they continue to merit the approbation of their officers, by their good conduct, obedience, and faithfulness. Their commandant on the frontier offered to send a detachment hither to fetch their wives and families, which offer, however, they wisely declined. This expedient having failed, another was resorted to, but with like ill success. On the 9th of this month, I received a letter from the civil commissioner of this district, in which, without any reference to the offers made to their husbands, I was requested to ascertain how many of the wives and children desired to proceed to Graham’s Town, for whom government promised to provide conveyance and victuals; and thus an attempt was made to induce the families to remove to the frontier, contrary to the expressed will of the fathers, and thereby insure the services of the men for years to come. But though the commissioner came hither in person to promote the success of this application, not one of the parties concerned could be persuaded to comply with it. On the contrary, an opportunity was afforded to our people, to make known their wishes to the governor in a more distinct and effectual manner than they had been able previously to do. A letter addressed to his excellency on the subject, and which, on being communicated to them, they unanimously declared to *contain their words*, has since been forwarded, through the medium of the proper authorities, and we must now await the result. There are still 108 of our people, inhabitants of this place, attached to the commando, of whom 44 are married; and we have just resolved to employ a number of young men, by means of the fund for the relief of distressed Hottentots, in digging the gardens of those whose husbands are absent, and thus to assist

them in raising some produce for the support of themselves and children.

“Up to the 23d of July, all was safe at Shiloh. Brother Fritsch had seen the governor at Fort Beaufort, and obtained a promise of as much land as might be required for the use of the people at Shiloh. Brother and Sister Schopman returned hither on the 20th instant.

“Notwithstanding the absence of so many of our people in Caffraria, at the last celebration of the Lord’s Supper, on the 1st of August, which was a day of great blessing to the whole congregation, the church was so crowded with communicants, that one might have supposed none had been from home. On the 24th, the new school-building was solemnly opened; and though, by an oversight, no public notice was given of the solemnity, till about half an hour before it took place, no fewer than 323 children assembled together in the two school-rooms, which are contiguous to each other, besides the Missionaries, and a considerable number of adult members of our Hottentot congregation. The occasion was one of sweet and sacred enjoyment, on which our Saviour’s ‘*Peace be unto you,*’ cheered our hearts. The boys’ school is now conducted by the Brethren Schopman and Ezekiel Pfeiffer, and the children enjoy more opportunities of advancing in useful knowledge than at any former period. Brother Schopman also instructs in geography the more advanced pupils in the boys’ school, for one hour every day; while Ezekiel Pfeiffer and myself, with two junior assistants, and a young Hottentot sister, take charge of the infant-school. In the hours when my wife, together with the Sisters Sonderman and Brauer give their attendance, the children are divided into classes. Brother Nauhaus in the girls’ school has likewise an assistant teacher, a Hottentot widow, who receives a fixed remuneration for her trouble: thus, including the assistants, there are no fewer than eleven individuals engaged in the instruction of the rising generation.

“*Hemel-en-Aarde, 1st October, 1835.*

“You will probably have heard, long before these lines reach you, that the two last parties have arrived safe in Cape-Town, viz. Brother and Sister De Fries on the 21st of August, and Brother Lees and company, after a very speedy passage, on the 13th of September.

“On the 17th of September, peace was concluded at Fort Wiltshire with the several chiefs of the hostile Caffre tribes, inhabiting the district between the Keiskamma and the Wit-Kei, so that there is now a fair prospect of our gradually arriving at the end of our frontier troubles. The conditions are not yet known; but, as was to be expected, the governor has given up the impracticable plan of expulsion, and the Caffres are to remain as British subjects, under proper control and jurisdiction, in the country, government assigning to each tribe a certain tract of land. Though affairs may still take many an unexpected turn, it is but reasonable to expect, that the national customs of the Caffres—for instance, *sorcery*—will, under the new order of things, prove less

influential in obstructing the labors of the Missionaries than they have been hitherto, and that thus the unfortunate war will be overruled for good, and be a means of preparing the way of the LORD. Our Brethren at Shiloh were safe and well up to the 25th of August, when hostilities had ceased, and negotiations had commenced; so that we now have abundant cause to give thanks to the LORD, for preserving them so wonderfully throughout the whole of this calamitous period.

“ I mentioned in my last, that I had, in the names of the wives of the absent Gnadenthal Hottentots, solicited the dismissal of their husbands, so unjustly detained on military duty. To this request no answer has, as yet, been returned. Meanwhile, the hint, which I took the liberty of giving in a private letter to the civil commissioner, has not been altogether overlooked; for just when I was starting from Gnadenthal for this place, I received a communication from Zwellendam, in which I was informed, that the governor having taken into consideration the losses and privations to which the Hottentots and their families were subjected, had granted a gratuity of 10s. sterling to every wife for the purchase of clothes. Besides this little help, the commanding officer, whose last letter was dated King William’s Town, 25th August, and in which he as usual praises the people of Gnadenthal, informs me, that many of them had intrusted to him a considerable part of their pay to be transmitted to their wives and families; in addition to which, their gardens are now under cultivation at the expense of the fund alluded to in my last. I hope they will be able to struggle through their difficulties; but, unfortunately, no remuneration can make up for the loss they suffer, by the serious interruption of the opportunities here enjoyed for religious and social improvement.

“ Among the publications brought us by Brother De Fries was also a parcel from the British Temperance Society, and a letter from the secretary, which were extremely welcome, for I feel more and more interested in that promising cause. I mentioned in my last letters that the use of spirits had been altogether abolished at Gnadenthal and Elim, and other measures adopted to promote sobriety among the people around us; and I am happy to be able to add, that our example has been followed at all our stations. Here, at the Leper Institution, it was the custom to give the cooks, *both* Hottentots from Gnadenthal, a glass of brandy morning and evening; but they readily consented, at our recommendation, to relinquish it; and in the order for next year’s supplies, which was made out yesterday, the article *brandy* was altogether omitted, and the reason stated to the civil commissioner, whose duty it is to provide these things.

“ On the memorial-day of the 7th of September, three adults, (all married people,) were baptized at Gnadenthal, and others were admitted as candidates for baptism. On the anniversary of the opening of the infant-school, September 12th, about 140 little ones met in the church, and after having been examined as usual, were rejoiced by the distribution of the articles of clothing,

kindly sent us for the purpose by an honored friend in England. Nothing has occurred of late to interrupt the usual quiet course of the Gnadenthal congregation. Two elderly persons lately departed in peace to our Saviour; of whom the one, Adam Vertyn, had been confined to his bed for eight years, and during all that period, exhibited a degree of patience and submission to the will of his LORD, which was truly astonishing. Nor was he less remarkable for a keen sense of his own unworthiness, and a fervent love to our Saviour. Whenever, therefore, I felt myself in want of encouragement, I always used to visit him, and his conversation was sure to cheer me: on this account, I could almost lament his departure, though I must rejoice with him, on being released from severe suffering, and permitted to enter into the joy of his LORD.

"P. S.—*Gnadenthal, 7th October, 1835.* The rains which detained me at Hemel-en-Aarde have been far more abundant here and in the neighborhood, and the rivers have, in consequence, been more flooded than has been the case in the remembrance of any person living, not excepting the inundation of 1816. With great difficulty did I find my way home on the 4th; and all hands have since been employed in restoring the mill-course, making mounds, &c., and a great deal of labor and expense is still required to clear the gardens, which were under water. But, awful as was the visitation, we have more reason to be thankful than to complain. While many houses in the neighborhood have been much injured, ours have entirely escaped, excepting a few of the inferior huts of the Hottentots; and the torrent of our river has hollowed out a much better channel for its waters than it had before, which renders our valley less exposed to inundations in future. Brother and Sister Meyer were nine days on their journey from Groenekloof, and arrived safe this morning.

*"Gnadenthal, November 11th, 1835.*

"The chief occurrence in our Missionary field since the date of my last letter, is the opening of the new church at Elim, which took place on the 18th October, and at which myself and my wife, with the Sisters Sonderman and Nauhaus, were present. We came just in time to attend the concluding meeting in the Old Church on the 16th, and to take a share in the needful preparations on the 17th. Several companies of strangers had already arrived from a distance, who, of course did not forget to pay us a visit in the new church, where we were busily employed, with a number of Hottentots, putting all things to rights, and adorning the walls with festoons of oak-leaves and flowers, and with the following inscription placed over the minister's table: 'Thine eyes be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place.' 1 Kings viii. 29.

"From time to time more visiters arrived, at length they amounted to many hundreds, who had come on foot, on horse-

back, or in wagons, of which I counted not fewer than 31 ; many were doubtless detained by the rainy weather, and the very bad roads. The church, which holds full as many hearers as that of Gnadenthal, was crowded to excess, and a number were obliged to stand outside the doors. The first solemn meeting was held at 8 o'clock, by Brother Teutsch ; but I am altogether at a loss for words to describe the highly interesting scene which presented itself, and in every respect exceeded my most sanguine expectations. We were seated in one of the neatest places of worship in the colony, and which would do no discredit to any part of England, *erected entirely by the hands of Hottentots*, having before us a congregation, as respectable in outward appearance and neatness of dress, as I ever saw in any part of the world, all attentive and devout, and a great many either bathed in tears, or struggling to repress the glistening drops which started from their eyes. When, with this scene before me, I recollected what the Hottentots formerly were, and what was the state of the farm Vogelstruyskraal, little more than eleven years ago, my heart overflowed with gratitude to our Saviour, who alone can do such wonders ; but the emotion of my mind would scarce allow me to join in the *Te Deum Laudamus*, with which the service was opened. The same sensation of holy joy and gratitude, the same refreshing sense of the nearness of our LORD, pervaded the whole assembly ; so that with one accord they could bear witness, that the glory of the LORD filled the house, and that they never should forget this happy day in all their life. Nor did the neighbors and visitors appear to be less interested in the solemn services than the inhabitants of Elim, and the members of the congregation. Afterward followed the usual prayers of the Church, and a public discourse. In the afternoon, ten adults were baptized ; and in the evening there was an address to the congregation. On the following day, when the visitors had returned to their houses, we had a love-feast with all the adult inhabitants, and the holy communion with upward of fifty communicants ; and at all the meetings we were favored to enjoy the presence of our Saviour. Among many subjects for gratitude, connected with the building of the church at Elim, I must not forget to mention, that none of the workmen received the slightest injury ; that the building, though much superior to our churches at Gnadenthal and Groenekloof, is considerably cheaper ; and that while it has been in progress, the awakening has been spreading in the neighborhood, and thus a temple of living stones has been gradually built up by the SPIRIT of GOD.

“ Our Brethren at Houtkloof, who were prevented, by the circumstance of the Caffre war, from building the room for divine worship, as proposed, are now busily employed, and hope to have it finished before the end of this year. All of them now belong to Elim, and three or four of their number were among the ten who were baptized on the 18th.

“ Notwithstanding the peace with the Caffres, the stealing of cattle has not altogether ceased ; and our unfortunate Hottentots

are still detained on military duty, nor is there any immediate prospect of their release.

“Meanwhile, I have been lately informed that the men, whose conduct has hitherto been so exemplary, have begun to show symptoms of impatience and disobedience; and I have therefore just addressed a letter to them, consoling them under this sore trial, and admonishing them to patience and submission; promising, at the same time, to plead their cause in the proper quarter. Up to the 10th October, the Brethren and Sisters at Shiloh were well, and lived in undisturbed peace. On the 4th, two Hottentots and two Tambookies were baptized, of whom Brother Bonatz has good hopes. The severe weather which we had here on the 2d October, has been also felt in the interior. Brother Fritsch lost several of his oxen on a journey to Enon; and at Shiloh a great number of sheep, and many head of cattle, perished. But, on the other hand, Enon is once more refreshed by a full supply of running water, and the people are busy planting their long-neglected gardens. On the 15th of October, Brother Stoltz opened the infants school at Enon. Brother and Sister Lees, with Sister Mueller, arrived here on the 14th of last month. Sister Lees began a school of industry with about 30 Hottentot girls, which I hope will succeed. Brother and Sister Teutsch have been here since the 4th instant, and *we* are beginning to make preparations for our visit to Europe, to attend the Synod. In the first week of October, Brother and Sister Schopman conversed with the different classes of our congregation, with much pleasure and edification; and 36 individuals were on that occasion advanced in the privileges of the Church, four of whom partook of the holy communion last Sunday. Brother Schopman has at present eight youths, under separate instruction, in order to prepare them for being assistants in our schools, which are as well attended as ever. Brother Teutsch will in future have the charge of the infant school, with the assistant Ezekiel Pfeiffer, who continues steady, and appears never more happy than when he is surrounded by his 145 pupils. The damage done by the flood in October is nearly repaired, and the gardens, which were incumbered by sand and rubbish, would have been ready long ago, if the work had not been retarded by the rainy weather, which has prevailed for two months or more. This unusual abundance of moisture is very beneficial to the fields, gardens, orchards, and plantations, and there is as yet a cheering prospect of an abundant crop.

“H. P. HALLBECK.”

FROM BROTHER W. C. GENTH.

“Enon, July 7th, 1835.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—My last letters gave you information of our retreat to Uitenhage, and some particulars of our sojourn at that place. We returned to Enon in safety on the 13th of May, thankful to the LORD for the protection vouchsafed to us and to the members of our dispersed Hottentot flock, during our tempo-

rary exile. We found the settlement uninjured by the Caffres, and rejoiced to learn that the 34 Hottentots, who had been left as a guard, had been enabled to discharge their trust, without the shedding of a drop of blood. Our cattle and other effects had been removed, previous to our departure. What we have chiefly to regret, besides the dispersion of our congregation, during a period of nearly three months, is the considerable expense which has been brought upon our Mission-fund.

“Of our Missionary labors, I have nothing very new to report; we have still to complain of a want of spiritual life among the souls committed to our care. In externals, we continue to struggle with many difficulties; our people have still not unfrequently to suffer from want of food, the effect of unfavorable seasons and deficiency of employment. The Witte river is again flowing, some rains having lately fallen, but the quantity of water in its bed is still insufficient for the irrigation of the gardens.

“Our Mission-family, I am thankful to say, are in the enjoyment of good health.”

FROM BROTHER A. BONATZ.

“*Shiloh, September 26th, 1835.*”

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—The nine months which have elapsed since the commencement of the dreadful Caffre war, have been marked by a continued series of benefits, blessings, and preservations, so that we are constrained to exclaim—*Who are we, that the LORD should have been so graciously mindful of us?* While our fellow-laborers, the Missionaries in Caffraria, to the south and south-east of us, were obliged to take refuge in the colony, leaving their property behind them,—while the whole district around us swarmed with hordes of plunderers, who often encamped with their booty at no great distance from the settlement,—and while, for days and nights together, we had to keep our minds in a state of preparation for the worst that could befall us,—so mercifully did the LORD deal with us, that not an individual belonging to our Mission-family or congregation sustained the least bodily injury. It was indeed a season which taught us to pray. Is the question asked, what induced us to remain exposed to so much danger, and not to take refuge within the colonial frontier?—a twofold answer may be given. I will not deny that the disposition, so congenial to man’s fallen nature, to cleave to the things of earth, had some influence in confirming our resolution to tarry by the stuff. We were naturally reluctant to leave the scene of our pleasant labors—the gardens we had planted, and the houses we had reared; and to surrender the property we had acquired on behalf of our Church and Mission, however inconsiderable it might seem, as a prey to the barbarous invaders: nevertheless, this was not, I trust, the prevailing consideration with us. For myself, I can truly declare, that I was much more powerfully affected by the tears of our Tambookies, both baptized and unbaptized—their evident alarm and distress, their passionate exclamations, ‘What will become of us

if our teachers forsake us!’—and, though last, not least, by the sobs of the children in my little school. These were the arguments which induced us to linger on the banks of the Klipplaat, till the arrival in our neighborhood of a commando of burghers afforded us some degree of protection. The following are a few of the expressions which fell from our Tambookies, during this period of anxiety, when, having packed up and concealed our moveable effects, we stood in readiness to depart at the shortest notice:—‘ We can neither eat nor sleep for fear and distress. The Indian corn cleaves to our throats. It is of no use any longer to drive the birds away from our corn-fields; we shall never reap what we have sowed. If you go, we will follow your wagons; and if we are shot by the Caffres, it shall be at your side. If you go on board a ship, we will go with you.’ The children offered to be servants to myself and the sisters. We asked what they would do for us? to which they replied, ‘ We will fetch wood and water, cook and wash for you; we will do anything, if you will only keep us school and give us food.’ During this whole period, Mapasa behaved to us in the most friendly manner, though we could not help sometimes suspecting, that he kept up a secret intercourse with the Caffres. Yesterday I heard that many Fetkanas had been seen to the north of us, and that the settlers in the neighborhood of the frontier were assembling in order to make head against them. Shiloh now forms part of the colonial territory, and we are once again British subjects. This change, we trust, will be attended with beneficial effects. I lately received a very welcome present, from the Rev. Mr. Boyce, Wesleyan Missionary; it consisted of a grammar of the Caffre language, a translation of St. Luke’s Gospel, and several school-books. In my school, I had not long ago nine children, who could read well; of this number, five have left us, to my great sorrow. The number of children under instruction is very variable—it seldom reaches fifty. Remember us in your prayers.”

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[From the “Periodical Accounts,” &c.]

### III. WEST INDIES.

#### I. JAMAICA.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BROTHER J. ZORN.

“*New Fulneck, July 14th, 1835.*”

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—In reporting the present state of our Mission in Jamaica, we have cause to bless God and take courage. His work is prospering in our hands, beyond our expectation, notwithstanding our unworthiness and our little faith.



“The regular attendance of the negroes on the means of grace is cheering. Our chapel is uniformly crowded—indeed, inconveniently and uncomfortably so: had we additional accommodation in galleries, still more, I believe, would attend; and we may hope, not only that most of our members are impressed with the paramount importance of attending to their spiritual concerns, but likewise that many of our new people are giving proof, that they are in search of the “one thing needful.” Marriage is becoming more common; the Sabbath is better observed; and I think there is an advance in integrity and uprightness. The desire to learn to read the word of God, continues to be steady.

“I have bought out the apprenticeship of an elderly brown man, who devotes himself to the instruction of adults and children, here, and on the two estates of Y. S. and Ipswich, which arrangement I trust the LORD will bless, as I believe him to be a truly sincere Christian. Two weeks ago we had, on Friday afternoon, an examination of the children attached to our chapel. About 200 of them were able to attend.

“Our other congregations and preaching places are also flourishing. Brother Scholefield, at the new place in Mile Gully, has put up a shed to preach in, intending to make use of it on Sunday, July 5th, when, on account of the illness of his daughter, the duty devolved on Brother Davies. Brother D. writes, that he was almost overcome, when, for the first time, the voices of 500 or 600 worshippers re-echoed from the adjacent forest. Before this shed was completed, the people were exposed to the sun and rain, in the pastures of Richmond Hill. We *must* gradually proceed with the erection of a chapel, when there are so many perishing for lack of knowledge. Parker’s Bay, eight miles from New Carmel, should also have a chapel; the numbers attending being too great for Mr. Scott’s wharf-house, which he kindly lends us for the present. At New Carmel we are actually *forced* to proceed with the erection of a gallery,—the expense must fall principally on that congregation and its friends. Fairfield continues to have its double congregations. In order to accommodate the people in some degree, when but one Missionary is at home, they have thrown up an open shed at one end of the chapel, but the people must sit on the ground, and in rainy weather it will not be sufficient.

“At New Eden, Brother Renkewitz is thankful for the addition to his chapel of 150 seats.

“I lately spent a Sunday at Irwin Hill, and another at Beaufort, rejoicing with the respective congregations, and their pastors, that the word of GOD has free course among them, and is glorified.

“August 18th, 1835.

“We did not fail, as you may imagine, to make the memorable 1st of August a day of public thanksgiving for our sable flocks; and, in so doing, to direct their minds to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, and to exhort them to seek to please

him, by doing their several duties faithfully and punctually. It was Saturday, but our chapel was filled; at any rate, the place was never better filled than with that day's voice of thanksgiving—it quite drowned our little organ.

“Sunday, August 9th, I spent at Fairfield; it is pleasant to see the eagerness of the people, and the generally improving state of the congregation. Brother Scholefield is going on at Bethany, (in Mile Gully,) procuring materials. Brother Pfeiffer is building a small chapel at Beaufort, but his subscriptions are run out.

“October 5th, 1835.

“I have still to notice the safe arrival with us of Brother Kochte from the Danish Islands; he is stationed for the present at New Eden, whence Brother Renkewitz has been compelled, by ill health, to retire for a season into the Manchester Mountains, for change of air.

“New Fulneck, November 3d, 1835.

“DEAR BROTHER,—Our labors continue to be blessed by our gracious LORD and Master. At New Fulneck we are going on much as usual. I have begun to preach, every two or three weeks, on a Sunday morning early, at a new place, about five miles off, where there seems a promising opening; being alone, I am forced to return hither by 11 o'clock, to officiate at the public services. Brother Ricksecker writes from Fairfield, that last Sunday the chapel and adjoining shed were completely filled, and it being a wet day, Sister Ricksecker had to take a hall and piazza full of females besides! This was the case, though a part of the congregation was attending Brother Davies' ministry, in the savanna. Brother Scholefield informs me, that our congregation at Bethany (in Mile Gully) is still on the increase; and though they have lengthened the shed, it will not contain the regular auditors. He has now removed into a temporary dwelling near the spot, and is able to converse with the people individually. Brother Kochte feels encouraged at New Eden, by the good attendance at the evening-meetings, and his visits to the sick. When at Montego Bay, Brother Davies told me, that upwards of forty persons had entered their names at Irwin Hill, at the last speaking. Sister Zorn and myself lately spent two very pleasant days at Spring Mount, in company with seven Ministers of the Established Church, who met there on the business of the Church Missionary Society. The Marquis of Sligo, our governor, has applied to Mr. Farquharson, to know whether he can obtain a Missionary from our society for his estate near Old Harbor.

“December 7th, 1835.

“Enclosed you have a list of the school-houses we should be pleased to see springing up at our Jamaica stations; whether we shall be able to undertake them, is another matter, which is left to our Brethren at home to determine.

“While I am writing, our dear Brother and Sister Bininger, of New York, are under our roof. His health having been very precarious for the last eight months, he is come to Jamaica to avoid the severity of the winter, and the physicians speak very confidently of his eventual restoration. May the LORD grant it! his heart is quite engaged in the work committed to our Church, and the extension of the LORD’s kingdom.

“JACOB ZORN.”

FROM BROTHER JOHN COLLIS.

“*New Carmel, December 3d, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—As in my last letter I was able to give an account of the eager desire of the negroes for religious instruction in the parish of Manchester, so I am happy to state, at the close of nearly a year’s residence at my new station, that in this district, too, every Sunday presents a lively scene, and that we have, almost invariably, double congregations. New Carmel is situated on a small mount, toward the extremity of an extensive valley, whose rich pasture-ground swells into high and thickly wooded hills. The sight of extended lines of people, gradually moving along its surface, or suddenly emerging in the opposite direction from its defile, and climbing the ascent of our temple-crowned hill every LORD’S day—frequently and gratefully contrasts in our minds, with the times when religious instruction was rarely encouraged, and the Sabbath, with its solemnities, scarcely known. But though the people generally appear eager in the pursuit of religious truth, and these parts have long, through the liberality of the neighboring pious families, been peculiarly favored; do not imagine that there are not many instances to be met with of direct violation of the Sabbath, and of gross and open crime. Still, we must be deeply thankful for the religious feeling, which at this critical juncture generally pervades the black population; and we call upon all our Brethren and friends to pray, that it may not be suffered to subside, but, under the influences of the HOLY SPIRIT, may be quickened into real conversion of heart.

“My time, during the week, is almost altogether taken up in speaking with our people, and catechizing the children. The two most numerous schools, in which I am employed in the latter way, are the Cruse and Hopeton: the former, which I attend every Tuesday, numbers 76; the latter, which I visit every Monday, 168. Every fortnight I am favored to stay overnight at the mansion-house at Hopeton, and address a large number of people in the hall, or even assist the members of this indefatigable family in teaching young persons unconnected with their school, and who, after being busily employed during the day, are glad to devote an hour or two in the evening, to the improvement of their minds, and the benefit of their immortal souls. So assiduous has this family been in the instruction of those around them, that, independently of the children, many adults, who, on the first of August last year, did not know a single letter, have, through the zeal

of its members, been able to surmount every difficulty, and can now read fluently in the word of life. In addition to the schools already mentioned, I regularly visit those at Prospect, Woodlands, Hampstead, Mount Edgcombe, and Parker's Bay. At the latter place, where Brother Pfeiffer or myself preach every other Sunday, we have overflowing auditories.

FROM BROTHER RICKSECKER.

*"Fairfield, December 15th, 1835.*

"DEAR BROTHER,—At this place we have numberless causes to praise the LORD, and to raise our thankful Ebenezer, for he has not only thus far helped us, but has, in the course of the year, showered down upon us innumerable and undeserved mercies, both temporal and spiritual.

"During the months of April and May we had Brother and Sister Scholefield, and their children, on a visit. Then, Rev. Mr. Thomson and his lady. They remained with us ten days, during which time, a Manchester Bible Society was formed, and also Associations for the negroes. As Brother Davies was assisting Brother Scholefield at Mile Gully, during the solemn season of Lent, I felt Mr. Thomson's presence a help truly seasonable and welcome. On Good-Friday, he preached, and I kept the other meetings. Our chapel was filled with attentive hearers; and I trust many received a blessing. About 700 were present at our early meeting on Easter Sunday morning; and the hymn "Christians, dismiss your fears, &c." sung in the open air by the Refuge scholars, had a very solemn effect. While Mr. Thomson preached to a crowded auditory in the chapel, I addressed at least a thousand under the fig trees. It was a glorious day indeed; and, though long past, still retains its freshness in my memory. In August and September we had the pleasure of Brother and Sister Robbins' company, while Brother and Sister Davies supplied Irwin-Hill. While this visit was serviceable to Brother Robbins' health, I found his experience in the Missionary work very useful to me. On the 1st of September, the Refuge scholars had their public examination. Many ladies and gentlemen were present, and seemed highly gratified with what they saw and heard; which was a gratification to Sister Walker, who has bestowed unremitting pains on the institution. It adds to our labors not a little; but when we see them crowned with success, we are more than rewarded. Our married people held their memorial-day in two divisions, when 237 couples, who had been publicly married, appeared before the LORD. The widows, also, had a love-feast, on December the 6th, for the first time. Eighty-two were present, and seemed very thankful. It was an affecting sight to see them all assembled together, dressed in white. Every prayer-day, we have had the favor to baptize, receive, re-admit, and add to the class of candidates, sometimes as many as sixty at once.

"Nearly every Sunday I am engaged from 8 o'clock A. M. till 5 o'clock P. M., speaking, singing, or preaching. As soon as I come

down from the pulpit, the negroes surround me, and every one has something to say. This is wearying, but I should be sorry if it should be discontinued. Oh, how encouraging is the present period compared to seasons past! We have purchased a considerable number of benches; and a shed covered with boards, and joined to the back of the chapel, has been erected, sixty-four feet by sixteen. Those who cannot find room in the chapel, may now resort to the shed, and when the windows are opened, take part in the service. Last Sunday we had a collection of 19*l.* toward defraying the expense; a considerable sum for our poor congregation.

“The chapel in the savanna is now ready for roofing. Brother and Sister Renkewitz are, for the present, residing for their health at Shirehampton, six miles from hence, and about an equal distance from Bethany and New Eden; they assist us in speaking with the people, and have opened a day-school at the latter place.

## 2. ANTIGUA.

### LETTER FROM SISTER MORRISH TO HER BROTHER.

“*St. John's, 18th August, 1835.*”

“It is with a truly thankful heart, that I now inform you of the guardian care of our covenant GOD during the late hurricane; for not to any wisdom or management of ours, nor to any strength of the building in which we took shelter, but to the “Man who is a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest,” do we attribute *all* our safety, and ascribe *all* the praise.

“Up to 3 o'clock *p. m.*, on Wednesday the 12th instant, we felt no greater degree of uneasiness than is usual during the hurricane season. At dinner we conversed much with Brother and Sister Harvey, about the hurricane in Barbadoes, and our experience in it, little thinking one was so near Antigua. About 4 o'clock, the heavens assumed a dark and threatening appearance, the clouds showed those ragged edges so portentous at this season, and chased each other with amazing rapidity. The sea rose much above its usual level, accompanied with a great swell from the northwest; and one of those sudden gusts, so characteristic of a hurricane, threw down our garden-fence, of considerable length, with the brick pillars which supported it.

“There was now no time to be lost. Brother Harvey and my husband, with some negroes, set about securing the church, school-room, and dwelling-houses, with all possible speed; besides the inner fastenings, strong bars (kept in readiness for the purpose,) were nailed, one across the outside of each window, and two across the doors. While thus engaged, Brother Morrish had a narrow escape. He stood near the top of a ladder, twelve feet high, when the force of the wind almost threw him down. He quickly caught hold of the iron hook, used for fastening back the shutter, which was as quickly wrenched from the window-sill; he seized the other, which remained fast, the force of that gust being spent.

“While all this was going on out of doors, I was not idle within. After we had committed ourselves, our children, our Mission-family, and our little all, to the tender care of our gracious and

almighty Saviour, and implored His help and support during the coming trial, I set about getting a suit of clothes put up for ourselves and the children, to carry with us, when we left the house, for we had no idea that it would stand a hurricane. While thus engaged, the building shook, and the roof cracked fearfully. Having finished all our preparations, my husband said, in a tone I shall not soon forget, 'Now we must leave this house.' He carried John Francis, our servant, William, and I, the baby six months old, all wrapped in blankets. We were only about thirty-six yards from Brother Harvey's house, whither we would go; the darkness was dismal, and the yard strewed over with broken branches, but we all escaped uninjured, through our Saviour's care.

"Brother and Sister Harvey had just finished their preparations, and were anxiously awaiting our arrival. It was now, I think, about seven o'clock, the wind blowing from the north-west, with increasing violence. Soon after a colored Sister, who lived close by, came with her family (twelve in number,) begging admittance. Their house had given way, and they considered it no longer safe to remain in it. Two strange negroes also came, imploring shelter, with loud cries and lamentations. The house where their son lived had fallen; he had gone to his mother's; her's was thrown down, and they had now nowhere to lay their head. Although it was dangerous to open the door, Brother Harvey let them in; their mournful cry gradually died away; they seated themselves upon the floor, and, with the sang-froid peculiar to the negro character, soon fell asleep. We were not quite so much at ease. The rage of the storm still increased; the house shook; the cap (the board fastened along the ridge of the roof) was torn off; and the fragments of stone and timber dashed with such violence against the walls of our dwelling, that we feared repeatedly they had given way. At twenty minutes to 8 o'clock, the dreadful din, which but an instant before surrounded us, was hushed into the stillness of death. During this respite (for we knew the hurricane was, as it were, only gathering breath) a white family, who lived on the opposite side of the street, joined us. Brother Harvey's house was now pretty well filled. As we had anticipated, the hurricane recommenced, at 8 o'clock, from quite the opposite point, and with redoubled fury, so that fears were entertained about the strength of the building to resist it. After raging till 12 o'clock the storm gradually decreased in violence, to which we listened with feelings not easily described, while we raised the fervent prayer of gratitude to Him 'who hath gathered the winds in his fists,' and whom 'the wind and the sea obey.' About 3 o'clock A. M., we stretched ourselves upon the floor, but after a night of such excitement, we tried in vain to sleep.

"No description can convey to your mind any just idea of the scene of ruin which presented itself to our view the following morning. On whichever side we looked, the sight was heart-sickening; and, 'Come, behold what desolations the LORD hath made in the earth,' occurred to my mind, wherever I went. Brother Harvey's house, we find, is a good deal sunk on one side, and another of the Mission-houses is considerably injured.

“On the 16th, the Sunday following, we had a larger congregation than the church could contain. Brother Harvey preached in the morning, from Psalm cxlv. 10; ‘*All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD, and thy acts shall bless thee.*’ Brother Morrish kept a meeting to the children from Psalm xxxiv. 8; ‘*O taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.*’ Their attention was unusually fixed, and many of them wept. This was followed by the confirmation of eleven negroes. Brother Harvey addressed them from Rom. xii. 1; ‘*I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies,*’ &c. He is an eloquent man, and mighty in the Scriptures; and indeed his word seemed that day to be in ‘demonstration of the Spirit and of power.’ The negroes were so deeply affected, that when we knelt down in prayer, his voice could scarcely be heard for their convulsive sobs and weeping. I have no doubt, that it was a day of blessing to many souls. We have visited a good many of our people on the estates, since the hurricane, and find them (speaking generally) in a chastened and resigned state of mind. One old Sister said, ‘Ah, Massa, the LORD savey we, not for our goodness, but He heary the prayer of One ’mong ten thousand, and for dat prayer He savey we. And see, Massa, all He know bout we. See da (pointing to an old feeble Sister) not have no one tall for help she, so He take only leetle bit of de trash off she house, but He knows pickney (children) pring me trash, so He takes all off from me house.’ The words I tell you as she said them, but the energy and gesture which accompanied them, I cannot convey to your mind. “ELIZ. MORRISH.”

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BROTHER B. HARVEY.

“*St. John’s, August 25th, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—Concerning the progress of the late hurricane, and its effects upon the island generally, you will have heard from other quarters. Besides the extensive mischief done to various kinds of property, twenty-two vessels have been driven on shore; and many deaths have been occasioned both by land and sea. The legislature has voted 1500*l.* currency for the relief of indigent sufferers, and 100*l.* to the Daily-Meal Society for the same purpose. And now the Governor has proclaimed a day of humiliation and thanksgiving, to be held on the 2d of next month. Indeed we *have* cause of thanksgiving as well as humiliation—for, had the wind increased but a little more in strength, the destruction of life and property must have increased in a dreadful ratio; so that we may sing of judgment and of *mercy*, and should be equally humbled by the power and the goodness of God, for it is of His mercies that we have not been consumed. After all that is come upon us, we are punished less than our iniquities deserve, and thousands have been spared the dreaded destruction which hung over them, their families, and their habitations. ‘Oh, that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!’”

“It happened most providentially, that we had the first symp-

toms of the approaching tempest, while it was yet day, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon; so that before dark, our family houses, the church, and the school-house, were all secured, as far as the power of man could effect it.

"Thirty-five souls were sheltered in my house; among the rest Brother Morrish and family, whom the storm soon terrified out of their crazy habitation, throwing half of the roof on the ground. *They* have special cause for thankfulness, and I am sure they feel it. Their house is in fact ruined. It was the first church which the Brethren built in Antigua. It is now become absolutely necessary to build a new house; and meanwhile Brother Morrish and his family will have to live in the school-house, the church being temporarily made a place of instruction for our day-scholars. Brother Zetsche's house has likewise been seriously damaged. Besides what I have stated, we have suffered nothing but the loss of spouts and fences, which, however, are matters of much importance to us; especially the former, as our cistern, like all others in this island, is entirely supplied from the roofs of the houses, from whence we obtain all the water we use. As to the trees, many have been left almost without a branch. The venerable sand-box tree, which spread its boughs over sixty feet square of the yard, being of a very brittle texture, was soon reduced to a wreck, its heavy branches being driven, like battering rams, against the house.

"As soon as possible, the following day, August 13th, I sent off messengers to our settlements in the country, and we were thankful to hear, that, though almost all their spouts and fences were torn away, no one had received any personal injury, and no material damage had been done to the churches or dwellings. At Gracehill, Sister Bigler was preserved through the terrors of that night, and has since been safely delivered of a fine daughter, on the 23d instant. At Gracebay, Brother and Sister Möhne, and Brother Thraen and family found refuge in the cellar. At Newfield, the night was rendered the more fearful, by two fires breaking out on neighboring estates. At Cedar Hall, Brother Newby and Brother Zellner and family were safely sheltered in a small stone-built room, where they heard the raging of the wind, but were mercifully preserved from its fury.

"While we are comforted with the thought, that many Brethren and friends at home will rejoice with us, and glorify God on our behalf, I must endeavor to discharge my mind of a heavy burden, by venturing to express the hope that our hearts may be gladdened with the news of relief being raised by such as 'tarry by the stuff' at home, to meet the extraordinary expenses which the present visitation of Divine Providence has brought upon us."

FROM BROTHER C. H. ZELLNER.

*"Cedar Hall, September 8th, 1835.*

"On the morning after the hurricane, when we opened our doors and shutters, what a scene presented itself to our view! Our new fence round our gardens prostrate on the ground; our tin spouts all torn away the trash (or thatch) over the school-house



torn off, and every one of the wooden spouts blown away, and much damaged. As far as the eye could reach, we beheld dreadful havoc made among the negro-houses, sugar-works, and mills; many dwelling-houses of managers and overseers much injured.

“On the following Sunday, the church was more than usually crowded; our halls, passages, and avenues were quite filled, and very many were outside. O, for the enlargement of our church! I wish you and many of our Christian friends could have been present, and stood with us at the entrance of our church, and seen one group after another approaching, deeply engaged in conversation, telling each other the striking preservation they had experienced during the dreadful tempest. The mouths of all appeared to overflow with praise and thanksgiving, for the privilege vouchsafed to them, of being able again to enter the courts of the LORD.

“An old helpless Sister, quite overcome with thankfulness, gave us the following relation of the LORD’s goodness to her, and two children intrusted to her care, in her dilapidated and miserable hut:

“‘I said to myself—Well, the old house wont stand, can’t stand dat trong wind; he raging too much; but what shall me do? Me then take courage, take dem pickneys (boys) in me hands, and me say to em, let *a wee* (us) pray; well, me pray to de LORD, dat he may have mercy on a wee poor soul; me pray on wid me two boy; me beg de LORD to keep he hand over a wee; me cry, LORD save poor house! Keep it from falling on a wee; while de poor boy pray, and cry, ‘LORD, save and keep a wee.’ Me then creep into one corner for shelter from de rain, which come in a little—though me no mind dat much, and now me go on, pray, pray.—Now, see me (turning to the by-standers) and me two boys, all whole. Ah! when me see daylight, me so glad, no able to thank the LORD enough. All of we alive—quite well, the poor old house tand; only one shingle, and some trash blow off, while many a trong house thrown down to the ground. Ah! the LORD do em, the LORD keep we.’

“On the 17th, although the weather was still rough and squally, we counted about 140 children, who came to celebrate their memorial-day, and the opening of our day-school. I asked them what they did during the late hurricane; some of them answered, ‘We knelt down and prayed to our Saviour.’ They were again asked, if they would now love him more, because he had so mercifully preserved them from injury and death, and if they would anew give their hearts to him, and beg him to put his Spirit into them? They all cheerfully replied, ‘Yes, Master, we will.’ After the love-feast, we distributed presents of little picture-books, &c., sent by our kind benefactors, the Committee of the Religious Tract Society, among those who had been most regular in their attendance, and exemplary in their conduct.

“The children were much pleased, and it afforded us no little gratification to watch them, turning their books from one side to another, while their eyes sparkled with delight. Both our day and Sunday schools continue to afford us much pleasure. The average attendance has lately been on the increase, amounting to 140; our chief regret is, that the school-room is by far too small,

especially for the infant-school system ; a building twice the size of it, would not be too large for us.

“ We have likewise encouragement in our labors among the adult part of our flock. The services have been well attended ever since August, last year, but latterly the congregations have been still more numerous, so that we may safely say, that the half of those who come cannot be accommodated. We are obliged to fill our hall and passages with forms, and are, ourselves, actually driven out of our home, and after all, large numbers remain without seats, and many are lying, sitting, and standing round about the church, looking dissatisfied, because they cannot hear the word. It is, indeed, a cheering sight to witness the zeal and eagerness of our people to hear the word, and sanctify the Sabbath of the LORD, but it is also painful, to see so many excluded from a full and distinct hearing of the word of life. It is, therefore, high time, for the sake of this large congregation, for the sake of so many precious souls, that the church should be enlarged to double its present size, by throwing the whole building into one, and providing another Mission-house. I would, therefore, most earnestly appeal to all our dear Christian friends to assist us, (for the negroes are willing to do something themselves,) in effecting the enlargement of our church at Cedar Hall ; and, if possible, the school-room likewise, as we wish to enlarge our border, and stretch our curtain wide, that we may promote the cause of Him who has called us into his vineyard, to work while it is day.

“ C. H. ZELLNER.”

FROM BROTHER G. BAYNE,

“ *Gracehill, August 21st, 1835.*

“ DEAR BROTHER,—During the awful hurricane, of which I need not detail particulars, our Missionary family, consisting of Brother and Sister Bigler, Brother and Sister Zetsche, (on a visit from St. John’s,) and myself and wife, all had their minds directed in prayer toward Him who invites us to call upon him ‘in the day of trouble.’ I paced to and fro, from one end of the house to the other, while I ‘poured out my soul before the LORD,’ who had many times shown me his power to save. While thus engaged, I took up the Text Book, which lay in an unusual place, and opened to the LORD’s gracious answer to Lot, when he interceded for the little city, therefore called Zoar. ‘See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also.’ These words quieted all my fears, and, as it were, anchored my soul once more on JESUS. Our house is not very strong, and we could scarcely have expected its weathering the desolating tempest, had it continued to rage from the N. W., the point at which it commenced ; but providentially our dwelling was screened from the violence of the second blast from the S. E., by the abrupt ascent on which it is built.

“ The church and dwelling-house are, indeed, preserved by the hand of the LORD from destruction ; but much property, in the way of palings, fences, spouts, &c., has been entirely destroyed, not to speak of the damage done to our gardens, and the fine co-coa and cedar trees that adorned our settlement. No small ex-

pense will have to be incurred before the place is in any thing like order again. May the LORD incline our friends to assist us, and abundantly bless them!

“On Sunday, the 16th, we held a love-feast for our day and Sunday scholars, followed by an address and catechization. About 220 were present, as also many of the parents of the children. Indeed, we can declare with thankfulness to the LORD, that all our services are numerously attended. G. BAYNE.”

FROM BROTHER HARVEY.

“*St. John's, November 21st, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—Since the date of my last to you, we have passed through a season of sore affliction.

“On Sunday, the 25th of October, Sister Muentzer departed this life at Newfield, of the yellow fever; and her remains were interred here on the 27th.

“I was about to write, and give you information of this distressing event, when I was myself attacked by the fever, as were all the Brethren and Sisters here in town, viz. myself and my dear wife, and the Brethren and Sisters Thraen, Zetsche, and Morrish. We were all sick together, so that for the two last Sundays, the church in Spring Gardens has been shut, and our native assistants have had to attend to the many funerals meanwhile occurring in the congregation. Sisters Zetsche and Thraen were in a very critical state, and my wife was brought very low; and Sister Morrish is still extremely weak, hardly able to leave her bed. We Brethren were brought through more speedily. Indeed, I am truly thankful to say, that we are all recovered from the fever; and, though very slowly, are regaining our strength.

“Yesterday I went to Cedar Hall, in consequence of the dangerous state into which the fever had brought Sister Zellner; and I have the painful duty of informing you that she departed this life last evening, and her remains will be interred here this afternoon.

“The fever is decidedly abating here in town; but it is extending more in the country.

“Sister Bigler and her eldest son are still laid up with it; but I am glad to say the doctors give a favorable report concerning her.

“Brother Morrish has accepted an appointment to succeed Brother Muentzer, at Newfield, and will remove thither as soon as the restored health of his family permits. B. HARVEY.”

FROM BROTHER ZELLNER.

“*Cedar Hall, December 14th, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—In the night, between November the 14th and 15th, my dear wife was violently seized with fever, and the physician gave me no hope of her recovery, for the fever, in this time of pestilence, assumed such different forms as often to baffle the skill and experience of the most eminent medical men.

“After the doctor had left us, I repaired to her bedside, when she expressed a desire that we might be left alone, in order that we might kneel down together in prayer. I told her that it was

impossible for her to kneel in her weak state, and encouraged her to lift up her heart to the LORD, just as she was, while I kneeled down at her bedside. She then lay still, with her hands folded; and after looking on me for some time, said, 'Will you forgive my faults and offences, by which I have grieved you?' I readily assented, for I could remember none. After some time she said, 'O, do care for my children!' which, with an aching heart, I promised to do. After some words of deep interest to myself, and a long pause, she said again, 'Before I went to Fairfield, and for some time afterward, I felt the LORD very near to me; but since that time, my frame of mind has been more changeable, and I know I have often grieved him.' I encouraged her to consider the mercy and grace of the Lord JESUS CHRIST, and his unchangeable love to penitent sinners, when she replied, 'O yes, on that is my reliance;' and then prayed—'O LORD, have mercy on me!—pardon! forgive!' and then she continued for some time in silent, but fervent prayer. After this she exclaimed, quoting a favorite hymn,—

'Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past; &c.

"She then requested to have read to her the well-known hymn of Bishop Gambold, containing the lines—

'And when I'm to die,—Receive me! I'll cry,  
For JESUS hath loved me,—I cannot say why.'

"She continued some time engaged in prayer, with her eyes heavenward, but too weak to utter her thoughts, except in whispers. But after another pause, she all at once resumed—'O, how good is the LORD! I lie here dying without pain; and my LORD, when dying, had to endure so much.' A short time after, she called for her children, and tenderly embraced each of them; but this was a trial almost too great for her strength. She sunk back, and paused a long time, after the dear children were taken away. She then said, 'Do give my kindest love to my dear, dear father, whom you have never seen, and to my dear brother and sister, and to all my dear friends here and at home.'" She now seemed much exhausted, but some time after, suddenly she turned to me, saying, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." Again she asked me to help her to pray, and then exclaimed, "Hark! don't you hear that beautiful tune? I've heard it all this time, and I don't get tired of hearing it. Come, let us go home—What do we wait for? Let us not delay—let us go. I'm now ready—I don't wish to be delayed." From this time, Thursday evening, she almost ceased to speak audibly, but remained quite sensible. When receiving her medicine, or a little nourishment, she smiled, and articulated the words, "It is of no use.—All will turn to dust." Previous to her departure, she was seized with convulsions, and appeared to suffer much while they continued. On their subsiding, she became perfectly tranquil, and breathed easily, but grew weaker and weaker, every breath sounding as if it said, "Away—away!" till, with a long sigh, she breathed her spirit into the bosom of the Saviour, whom she loved, and in whose merits was all her trust."

FROM BROTHER EUGENE HARTWIG.

*“ St. John’s, January 2d, 1836.*

“ DEAR BROTHER,—The few weeks which have elapsed since our arrival here, have been a season of sore trial to ourselves and our fellow-servants in this Mission. The two Sisters Muentzer and Zellner, are, I am grieved to say, not the only victims to the yellow fever that have been taken from our ranks.

“ On the 11th December, Brother Zellner came hither from Cedar Hall—a healthy, strong, and fine-looking man. On his return home on the evening of the same day, he fell ill, and after a short, but severe struggle with the messenger of death, finished his course on the 16th, to the great grief of his fellow-laborers. Thus, in the course of a month, a whole family has been carried off, with the exception of an infant, eight months old. This dear orphan, the youngest daughter of dear Brother and Sister Zellner, will be kindly taken charge of by Brother Zetsche and his wife. She is but just recovering from a dangerous attack of fever.

“ As Sister Miller had been on terms of great intimacy with Sister Zellner, it may easily be supposed that she was deeply affected, on her arrival at St. John’s, to hear of the departure of her friend. In the hope of being of some comfort to the bereaved husband, she and Brother Miller readily complied with the proposal made to them, to spend some days at Cedar Hall. On the 15th December they returned to St. John’s, in order to attend the Mission-Conference; and on the evening of the same day, Sister Miller began to complain of feverish symptoms. Having once taken to her bed, she never left it, but departed to our Saviour early in the morning of the 24th, to the great affliction of the whole Mission-family, as well as of her dear husband, who, I am concerned to add, is himself suffering from the disorder, which has already made so painful a breach in our ranks. Since the 25th he has been on a visit to Brother Bayne at Gracehill. May the LORD vouchsafe to us his gracious presence, and enable us to endure the fiery trial, through which we are called to pass.”

FROM BROTHER J. ELLIS.

*“ St. John’s, December 12th, 1835.*

“ DEAR BROTHER,—Our voyage was, on the whole, a pleasant one. The captain and passengers continued to attend our daily family devotions; and our Sunday services were also regularly kept up for all those who were willing to be present.

“ The two last Sundays we had divine service on deck, using the capstan, covered with flags, for a pulpit. It was pleasing to witness a spirit of devotion in several of our fellow-passengers.

*“ January 15th, 1836.*

“ I was to have gone to Gracebay this morning, but on account of the individual speaking, previous to the holy communion at St. John’s, and other circumstances, I have deferred my visit to the 19th instant. Indeed I find my strength, as yet, scarcely sufficient for so long a journey; for I have been reduced much lower by

my late attack of fever, than I ever was by any former seizure of the same kind in the West Indies.

“With regard to the large congregation in St. John’s, I scarcely know what to say. I certainly see many old faces, and recognise not a few who were faithful members of the church when I was stationed here, and who appear to have walked worthily of their calling; but I also miss many, who, on inquiry, I find have been unfaithful, and in consequence thereof have had to be disowned. The attendance at the meetings in the evening is pretty good.”

### 3. ST. KITTS.

FROM BROTHER A. SCHOLEFIELD.

“*Basseterre, August 14th, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—I proceed to give you some account of the hurricane with which it pleased the LORD to visit this island on the night of the 12th instant.

“The state of the atmosphere on that day induced us to use every precaution in our power, to secure our premises from the threatened danger. Nor were our fears unfounded, nor our precautions needless. As the shades of evening drew in, the wind, which ordinarily blows from the east, veered to the north, and became every moment more boisterous, accompanied, at intervals, with torrents of rain; and at 10 P. M. it blew a perfect hurricane.

“In our distress we cried unto the LORD, and he ‘preserved us in trouble.’ The violence of the storm continued to increase, attended with dreadful thunder and lightning, and the rain was driven with such force through our shutters and roof, that we were obliged to carry our children, some of whom were sick, from one room into the other, to protect them from it. The spouts soon gave way, and were broken in pieces, or carried to a considerable distance. The beams and rafters of our wooden dwellings creaked and groaned fearfully; and, amidst the terrific war of elements, there were two or three smart shocks of an earthquake. About 1 o’clock in the morning, the wind veered again to the east, and shortly after began to abate. It is with feelings of thankfulness to the LORD, that I inform you, that none of us have suffered harm, (a few colds excepted,) and that though our houses have sustained considerable injury, they are all standing.

“On viewing our premises, we found all our fences level with the ground; trees, some torn up by the roots, others shattered. Our poor negroes have suffered severely—numbers of the dwellings have been rendered for the present uninhabitable, and many entirely destroyed. Many lives have been lost; 12 have come to our knowledge, occasioned chiefly by the falling of houses.

“Our eleven estate schools have received a temporary check by this visitation. Some of the school-houses have been thrown down; but I have directed the teachers to use their best endeavors to see them restored as soon as possible, and to keep school meantime in the sick-house, or wherever they can.

“We have made an arrangement for the free children of the several estate schools to attend every Wednesday morning at

church, under the care of the respective teachers, to be catechized, and to repeat texts of Scripture and hymns."

FROM BROTHER J. D. SEITZ.

*"Bethel, August 20th, 1835.*

"DEAR BROTHER,—On the night of the 12th instant, we had a very fearful hurricane. About 11 o'clock the stable-door broke open, and endangered the safety of the premises. I ran out, exposed to rain and storm, and, with the assistance of two boys, succeeded in nailing up the door again, though we could scarcely stand till it was all accomplished. When I entered the house the roof cracked fearfully above us, and Sister Seitz exclaimed, 'Let us go into the cellar.' We were proceeding to do so, but finding the window blown open, and the rain and wind rushing furiously in, I was a second time obliged to go out, and to fasten the shutter. I had just effected this, with great difficulty, when a storm of sand and stones came against me, and drove me 60 feet, against the railing opposite the hall, from whence I found much difficulty in again reaching the kitchen door. Meanwhile Sister Seitz, the children, and the rest of the family, had taken shelter in the cellar, where, after I had changed my wet clothing, I joined them in fervent prayer to our heavenly Father for his kind protection. About 1 o'clock A. M. the wind abated, but our rooms streamed with water.

"When day broke, we saw nothing but destruction all around us. Our new school-house is laid on one side, half the roof gone, and the flooring broken up. Almost all our spouts and railings are carried away, but, thanks to our kind Preserver, the house and out-buildings have not suffered any material damage.

"And now, turning to the spiritual state of our congregation at Bethel, I must say that it is the work not of man, but of the LORD! From one prayer-day to another we have a regular increase. On the 23d, we shall have the pleasure of adding eight persons to the congregation by reception, and 13 will become candidates.

"Amidst all our trials and difficulties we have great cause for thankfulness, because we see more and more proof of the power of the Gospel on the hearts of the negroes.

"Since the school-house has been rendered uninhabitable, I keep school in the hall of the dwelling-house, for about 30 children."

FROM BROTHER H. SIMON.

*"Bethesda, March 9th, 1835.*

"DEAR BROTHER,—The average attendance at our Sunday school is from 250 to 300; last Sunday, however, it exceeded the latter number. We have about 80 reading in the New Testament, divided into four classes. Our infant school numbers above 100.

"The progress which they have made since August last, is very encouraging.

"From my own private journal, I extract the following:—

"July 6th, 1834. After the love-feast, we partook of the holy communion with 275 communicants; four persons were confirmed, two became candidates, and one was re-admitted.

“*July 7th.*—Having been requested by several aged and sick communicants on different estates to administer the holy communion to them in their dwellings, I set out on horseback for that purpose. At Crook Lodge I had to perform this solemn rite in four different huts, for four different persons, who were all unable to move out of their own houses. They all seemed truly thankful for, and refreshed by, their participation in this blessed feast; more especially old Nathan and Priscilla, who were moved to tears while admitted to communion. From thence I went forward to Spooner’s estate, where I administered the Lord’s Supper to 11 sick persons, who also expressed great thankfulness for this favor granted them. On Cornphip’s estate I visited a sister, who had been prevented by illness from attending yesterday at the church, when she was to have been confirmed. She gave a lively testimony of her faith in our Saviour and love to him, but thought that she still needed preparing by his holy Spirit, in order to be a worthy participant of his body and blood in the holy communion. After I had joined her at the throne of grace in prayer, I proceeded to Lower Bourreau’s, to visit a young sister who has for a long time been afflicted with disease. I found her resigned to the will of God, and bearing her great pain with patience. The Spirit of God is evidently carrying on a work of grace in her heart. Many old people having assembled in her house, I spoke to them of the love of the Saviour to poor sinners, and reminded them of the necessity of cleaving to him, while here below, in order to be prepared for his heavenly kingdom. Before I returned home, I administered the holy communion to another aged sister, who has long been unable to come to church, and who was quite overcome with gratitude to our Saviour, for the blessing conveyed to her by the ordinance. In the evening, being the first Monday in the month, we assembled in the church, with all the members of our congregation; and held our monthly meeting of intercession for the prosperity of our Redeemer’s kingdom on earth.”

FROM BROTHER J. J. SHICK.

“*Basseterre, October 12th, 1835.*

“DEAR BROTHER,—Permit me to urge upon your notice the great necessity of building a church at Bethel; not only because the dwelling-house is rendered very inconvenient, by its being also used as a church, but chiefly because the hearers cannot be accommodated in so small a compass, as is afforded by the present arrangement. Urgent as is the necessity of building a church at Bethel, scarcely less urgent is the need of obtaining an acre or more of land, near our premises in town; for our burial-ground is much too confined, and we are now filling it a second time.

“*January 1st, 1836.*

“The past year has been one of great expenditure in this Mission, and it is to be feared, that the present will not be less so.—The buildings must, however, be shingled, if they are not to go to ruin altogether; and if our lives and health are no longer to be exposed to imminent hazard.



“The Christmas holidays were worse attended than ever I have known them before; but yesterday evening our little church or *barn*, for such it appears, could not contain the hearers, and it has been filled for the second time this evening.”

FROM BROTHER A. SCHOLEFIELD.

“*Basseterre, November 21st, 1835.*

“DEAR BROTHER,—Accept our thanks for the kind interest you express in our behalf, in reference to the hurricane, with which it pleased God, in his all-wise providence, to visit this and other islands, in August last.

“In addition to the particulars already furnished, I may now mention, that our loss sustained by this visitation, was, at Basseterre, 110*l.* currency; Bethesda, 68*l.*; Bethel, 25*l.* Total, 203*l.* currency, or about 100*l.* sterling.

“Of all our stations, Basseterre stands most in need of a school-house, and a larger church is very desirable. At Bethesda, they keep school in the church every day; but, having only one public service on the Sabbath, the inconvenience is not so greatly felt as in town. At Bethel, a church is most needed. Here there is a temporary building used as a school-room; of course, neither durable nor convenient. Since the hurricane, four of our eleven schools have been discontinued, the negroes being unable to contribute, as before, to their support. Indeed, many of them have not been able to repair their own dwellings, much less to restore the school-houses blown down, unroofed, or otherwise rendered uninhabitable; and we have no funds for that purpose. The seven schools still in operation, we have endeavored to continue as hitherto, hoping shortly to hear of assistance from home; but I fear we shall, from the above-mentioned cause, have to discontinue three of them before long. This is the more to be regretted, as the children not only attended well, but were making pleasing progress. At one of the three about to be discontinued, there are twenty-seven children reading the New Testament. As a case of necessity, and at much personal inconvenience, arising from local circumstances, we have determined to open a day-school in our church, for the free children, in order that they may not forget the little they have learnt.”

#### 4. BARBADOES.

FROM BROTHER JOHN TAYLOR.

“*Sharon, June 9th, 1835.*

“DEAR BROTHER,—The services in Bridgetown are rather thinly attended in the morning, but the chapel is well filled in the evening. Indeed, we cannot expect to reap much fruit from our labor till a Brother and Sister can reside there constantly, and be able to visit the people, and converse with them. Hitherto we have appeared to them only as building a temple made with hands, but we hope soon to see *there*, also, a *spiritual* building erected to the glory of God in the hearts of men: materials there are in abundance. O, may the Spirit come, with divine power, and bid the dry bones live! We are anxiously waiting for assistance.”

*Sharon, September 10th, 1835.*

“I have already informed you of the opening of our chapel in Bridgetown; since that time, we have erected a small room, kitchen, pantry, chaise-house, and stable, which for the present afford us a lodging when we come to keep the services on Sunday, which we do alternately.

“At 11 o'clock A. M. we preach, after which we have a meeting of instruction for those who desire it, and at 7 P. M. we have public service again. The morning sermon is attended by about 100, the meeting by about 30, and the evening service by about 400.

“The chapels at Sharon and Mount Tabor are too small to contain the numbers who attend every Lord's day. The infant schools at each place are daily attended by 44 children, who are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and the girls in sewing.

“On the 23d of August we had the joy to welcome Brother and Sister Oerter, from Nazareth. With them we feel truly grateful for their preservation on their voyage from New York, from whence they sailed July the 19th, in an American vessel bound for the Danish Islands. On the morning of the 12th of August, they landed at St. Thomas's, where they took refuge, during the hurricane experienced there and in the neighboring islands; thus they escaped the fate of several vessels which, on the following morning, came into port in a shattered condition. On the 15th, they sailed in the steamer for Barbadoes, and had the pleasure of spending two days with the Brethren Bayne and Bigler in Gracehill, Antigua, as the vessel was obliged to put into English Harbor for a supply of coals, and some needful repairs.

“On the morning of the 3d instant, it pleased the LORD to visit this island with a severe gale, which continued from 9 o'clock A. M. till 2 o'clock P. M. Much damage has been done to the smaller houses in the outskirts of Bridgetown, and also to the negro houses in the country. I am happy to inform you, our three chapels and dwelling-houses, with their offices, have sustained no serious injury; but all our garden-fences and spouts have been blown away. You can scarcely conceive what were our sensations, when we recognised the first appearance of a hurricane; all the horrors of August the 11th came fresh to our minds, and we ardently prayed the LORD to spare us and our fellow-inhabitants, our church, and dwelling-houses. We consider it a great mercy that the storm came on in the day-time, so that we could secure our doors and windows, &c. The crops have sustained some injury, but we have had very refreshing showers since, which have proved very beneficial.

“On the 2d instant, I accompanied Brother Oerter to the Governor-in-Chief, Sir Lionel Smith, to whom he delivered a letter of recommendation from our bishop in Bethlehem, Brother Anders. His Excellency received us very graciously, and promised us every encouragement in his power; made inquiries concerning our new chapel in Bridgetown, and expressed a wish that we might establish a school there.

“Last week 611 new people, candidates for baptism, and excluded, came to speak with us here at Sharon. On Sunday next,

26 persons are to be baptized, 2 men are to be received into the congregation who were baptized here as infants, and 5 are to be re-admitted. Last prayer-day, July 19th, there were thirty baptized, two women received into the congregation, and two re-admitted.

“We are very anxious soon to have a Missionary couple stationed at Bridgetown, where, in the vicinity of our chapel, there are great numbers ignorant of the way of salvation, either living in gross sins, or wrapped up in their own self-righteousness. For the present, Brother and Sister Oerter are at Sharon, but will shortly remove to Mount Tabor, where they will probably reside, till a house is built in town.”

“*Sharon, October 9th, 1835.*”

“DEAR BROTHER,—Our chapel at Sharon could not contain half the people who came to church last Sunday, though it was neither communion nor prayer-day. The enlargement of it becomes indispensable, and we have opened a subscription among the members of our congregation, to assist in erecting galleries on the three sides; none are required to give more than one Spanish dollar in money or labor. I wish our dear Brethren and friends who have so liberally contributed to the Barbadoes Fund, could see our numerous congregation, listening with the greatest attention to the glad message of the Gospel.

“Brother and Sister Oerter have been for a few weeks at Mount Tabor, on a visit, but since the receipt of your letter, they have returned to Sharon, and will remain there, to assist in the care of the congregation, while Brother Klose and I are alternately in town, looking after the building there.

“*Bridgetown, November 17th, 1835.*”

“A school-house is much needed at Mount Tabor, and also in Bridgetown: the former to contain 200 scholars, the school here being much on the increase, the dimensions 50 feet by 25, the estimated expense of erecting it, 300*l.* sterling; the latter to contain 300 children, dimensions 60 feet by 30, expense of building, 400*l.* sterling. A school-house was erected at Sharon in 1828, and entirely blown down August 11th, 1831, by the hurricane; it was rebuilt in 1832, by the help of the fund collected on that occasion—dimensions 30 feet by 20; it ought to be as large again. On Sunday mornings we are obliged to have half of the scholars in the chapel.

“We have determined, after frequent and anxious consideration of the subject, to erect a larger chapel at Bridgetown, and convert the present building into a dwelling-house, for which it was originally intended; it being already much too small for the multitude of hearers who crowd into it, especially on Sunday evenings. On the 31st of October, being the anniversary of the Reformation, we laid the corner-stone. The church will be 72 feet by 45, and 20 feet high, of stone, to admit of galleries.

“Meanwhile, we continue to preach here every alternate Sunday, as before. On the 8th, being adult prayer-day, Brother Oerter and I baptized, at Sharon, 32 adults; 5 were received, and 4 re-admitted, to the congregation; the week previous, Brother and Sister Klose and Brother and Sister Oerter conversed with 681 persons,

belonging to the classes of new people, candidates, and excluded. Last Sunday I baptized 17 infants at Sharon, and married 10 couples.

“*December 28th, 1835.*”

“On Christmas-eve, I read the lesson from the Harmony of the Four Gospels, and preached to a crowded and attentive auditory, from Luke ii. 10. On Christmas-day, I read the same, in our morning service, and preached from Gal. iv. 4. At the evening service, many had to go away for want of room. I have heard to-day from Sharon and Mount Tabor. At both places the chapels proved too small for the numerous congregations at Christmas. Brother Klose had to preach in the school-room, while Brother Oerter was preaching in the chapel; both places were crowded, and many standing outside. I have heard the observation frequently made, by respectable gentlemen, that such a peaceable Christmas was never known in Barbadoes.”

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[From the “Periodical Accounts,” &c.]

#### IV. OBITUARY.

BROTHER C. I. LATROBE.

Though not engaged in actual Missionary labor, we cannot elsewhere more appropriately notice the departure of our late venerable and much regretted Secretary, Brother Christian Ignatius Latrobe, which took place at Fairfield on the 6th of May, in the 79th year of his age. The essential services which, during half a century, he was enabled to render to the cause, as Secretary of the Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel, will for ever connect his name with the Missionary annals of the Brethren's Church. His whole soul was devoted to this great work, and all his endowments, both natural and acquired, with all the influence which he possessed amongst a widely extended circle of friends and acquaintances, were unreservedly applied to advance its progress. The subject continually occupied his mind, and formed a prominent topic in his conversation, during his retirement and closing illness. Indeed, he declared that it engaged his thoughts more deeply, and called forth his intercessions at the throne of grace more powerfully, at this period, than it had ever done before. And it is remarkable, that the last observation which he made to his eldest son, was on a topic connected with our Missions, after he had already taken a farewell of him, which was not a little exciting to them both, and to the whole assembled family.

He was born at Fulneck, February 12th, 1758; was sent to Germany in the year 1771, for education in the Academy and College of our Church in that country, and returning to London in 1784, was, three years afterward, appointed Secretary to the Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel; an office which he held till 1834, when his increasing infirmities led him to retire to the bosom of that congregation where he was favored to lay aside his weary tabernacle, and enter into his Master's joy.





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